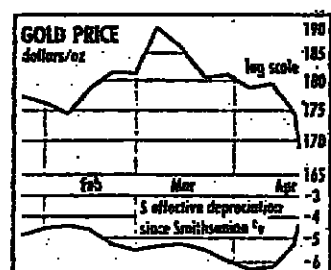


US selling gold to help boost dollar

It will start auctions of gold bullion from next month in an attempt to improve the monetary role of gold. The dollar has been strengthened but there was scepticism about the reasons because of the small amount of gold to be put up for sale.

mediate favourable reaction on markets

Vol in Washington
The US Government
start selling modest
amounts of gold bullion
from next month in an
attempt to improve the
monetary role of gold.



markets immediately reacted to the news of the sale, with the dollar rising against all currencies. The gold price fell from \$350 to \$250 an ounce, and the price of gold in London fell from \$350 to \$250 an ounce.

The Treasury stated that the sale of gold will have the effect of reducing the trade deficit, either by increasing exports of gold or by reducing the imports of gold.

However, last month America had a trade deficit of \$4,500m and the Administration is forecasting an average monthly deficit of \$2,500m. The gold sales will at current prices produce only about \$250m.

Over the past year the dollar has lost 13 per cent, 23 per cent, and 18 per cent respectively of its value against the yen, the pound, and the Deutsche mark.

Foreign exchange market dealers in the United States said that the rise in the dollar may have owed as much to the trend of the stock market and mounting expectations of tighter money policies, as to the gold sales announcement.

Meanwhile, the weaker pound and renewed speculation that interest rates may start to rise again sent a shudder through the London exchange yesterday and reversed the recent rise in the FT Ordinary share index.

By the close the index was at 63 down at 454.8.

Kidnappers say Moro death claim was forged

From Peter Nichols
Rome, April 21

The Moro tragedy is now back to its beginning with a new message today from the former Prime Minister's captors stating that he is still alive but will be killed if suggestions are not opened within 48 hours. They accuse the Government of having forged the statement of two days ago which stated that he had been killed and his body thrown in a lake.

As evidence that he is alive they sent a photograph of Signor Moro with yesterday's edition of *La Repubblica* to the rival Rome newspaper *Il Messaggero*. The newspaper's headline read: "Moro murdered?"

They also indicated their terms for contemplating Signor Moro's release by calling for the liberation of all communist prisoners.

Meanwhile the guerrilla war continues. A senior NCO of the guards of San Vittore prison in Milan was murdered this morning outside his home by terrorists. His death was claimed by the Red Brigades, the far left movement that kidnapped the Christian Democratic Party's chairman on March 16.

The search, where Signor Moro's body was thought to have been dumped in the area around the Lago della Duchessa went on fruitlessly from dawn. It served at least to find and identify the corpse of a shepherd which had, in early reports, been said to be that of Signor Moro.

Tension ran high in the corridors of Parliament with one particularly bitter exchange of insults between a Communist and a representative of the far left.

The latest statement from the kidnappers has given some hope to the hard-pressed leadership of the Christian Democratic Party.

The one woman minister in the Government, Signora Tina Anselmi, who is in charge of health and is close to the Moro family, called today on Signora Moro with the new message.

The earlier message which the kidnappers claim was a forgery was in fact only issued in Rome and not, as is normal, in four cities.

Signor Moro photographed by the Red Brigades with a newspaper report of his "death".



A photograph by Lord Snowdon of the Queen and her first grandson, Peter Phillips, son of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips. Her Majesty is 52 today.

Deadlock ended on security rating for foreign and defence matters

By Peter Hennessy

A Cabinet committee on official secrecy, chaired by the Prime Minister, has broken its deadlock on the definition of boundaries of a new security classification for defence and foreign affairs after an initiative by Dr David Owen, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary.

The preparation of legislative proposals intended to supersede the all-embracing, unworkable provisions of section two of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, broke down last summer on the question of novel, hybrid security classification "Confidential" and "International-Confidential".

It was fashioned to cover matters of great but temporary sensitivity. Like the negotiating position of her Majesty's Government on the eve of international discussions with foreign Powers.

Dr Owen resolved the impasse by telling colleagues on the Prime Minister's committee that the Foreign Office was prepared to live with the risk of embarrassing, unauthorized disclosures in those areas without the final sanction of the criminal law available in the background should the source of the leak be discovered.

In that field, as in all others to be removed from the reach of the law, Whitehall will rely on Civil Service discipline to discourage leakage. Should an official be uncovered as the source of an unauthorized disclosure, his or her career prospects will be jeopardized.

A White Paper on official secrets and information, embodying the Government's proposals, will be published in the next six weeks by the Home Office. It has been difficult for Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, to sustain the interest of fellow ministers in reform of the Official Secrets Act since the Cabinet committee decided last October to abandon the idea of an official information Bill this session and instead to draft a White Paper designed to test parliamentary opinion.

Ministers shrank from preparing a new statute for two reasons. The less robust, who included the Prime Minister, were alarmed at the very real prospect of backbench MPs of all parties combining to attach unwelcome disclosure clauses to any measure before the Commons. The more liberal members in the Cabinet developed grave doubts about the wisdom of replacing an unworkable Act with one that would secure conviction in the courts.

In deference to their feelings, the White Paper will contain some material on a more open system of government. It will do no more, however, than restate the Government's intention, announced last July

though not always observed to date, to release more background and analytical material once policy decisions have been announced.

In the absence of an imminent ministerial intention to legislate in that area, the Home Office has yet to draft a new official information Bill.

One notable feature in the spasmodic progress of Mr Callaghan's committee towards drafting a White Paper has been the robustness of Mr Denis Healey, Chancellor of the exchequer, which has left a deep impression. With the full support of Treasury officials, the Chancellor convinced his colleagues that the criminal law should be kept out of financial and economic matters.

The Franks committee, of which Mr Rees then in opposition, was a member, reported in 1972 that economic information that might jeopardize the currency and the reserves should remain a protected category. Since then the Treasury has learnt to live with the wisdom of replacing an unworkable Act with one that would secure conviction in the courts.

On the structure and management of the service, he agreed that the reorganization carried out by the Conservatives was proving too bureaucratic. The aim must be to make the service as local as possible.

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Speaker rules today on DPP's right to protect Colonel B

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The Speaker is to rule in the Commons this morning whether the Director of Public Prosecutions is in contempt of Parliament by issuing a confidential memorandum to newspaper editors about events in the Commons earlier in the day.

His decision to make his views known came as a dramatic climax to developments in the Commons which began when four Labour backbenchers named the signals intelligence officer who was the main prosecution witness in a court case and who has been known as Colonel B. They were covered by parliamentary privilege.

However, it was a Conservative MP, Mr Graham Page, who moved that the DPP was in contempt.

Early radio and television broadcasts, reporting direct what was stated in Parliament, named the colonel, but confusion arose later when the Director of Public Prosecutions issued his memorandum.

When eight backbenchers protested about his action the memorandum was read out in the Commons to allege that the DPP was in contempt of Parliament.

Both Labour and Conservative backbenchers protested that the DPP's action was in contempt of the Commons because it could lead to the censoring of proper reporting of parliamentary proceedings.

Mr Jeffrey Hooker (Lab, Birmingham, Perry Barr) said the memorandum flew in the face of all that MPs thought the Commons stood for. "In the sense that our proceedings are published factually, accurately and without prejudice to the public outside by the media".

It was the intervention of Mr Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby, that heightened the drama in the Chamber because it demonstrated that the anxiety of feeling transcended party lines.

He told the Speaker "What the DPP has said, and I have the report of it in my hands, is that even although it be fair reporting of our proceedings in the House, to repeat the name outside may be a contempt of court. That seems to me to be a contempt of Parliament to give that direction to newspapers who are absolutely entitled and absolutely privileged to report our proceedings in this House."

Mr Page then stated to members of agreement: "What the House will want to know is whether the DPP, who comes directly under the law officers, received any instructions from the law officers to make this statement. It is vitally important to the newspapers that the Speaker told MPs that he had listened with anxious concern to those who had raised 'this important question'. The official report ('Hansard') would publish a verbatim report of the proceedings of the Commons which is the High Court of Parliament."

He continued: "I also heard a report on the nine o'clock news tonight. It is not for me, for the Speaker of the House, to rule what is a contempt of court. That lies in other hands. It is for the legal authorities to decide what they consider to be a contempt of court. My task

is to protect the privileges of this House and I only rule on contempt as a matter of fact."

Two journalists and a former army corporal are being prosecuted under the Official Secrets Act over articles that appeared in the magazine *Time* Our, and contempt of court actions are to be heard in the High Court on Monday against the National Union of Journalists and two radical magazines, *The Liberator* and *Peace News* for naming the colonel.

The first MP to name him was Miss Josephine Richardson (Barking), who asked Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the House, if he would try to find time for a debate on press freedom in view of the restriction of press freedom in connection with the case of the colonel.

Other backbenchers who also named the officer in questions to Mr Foot were: Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West), Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) and Mr Ronald Thomas (Bristol, North West).

No action can be taken against the MPs, either under the Official Secrets Act or for possible contempt of court, because they are protected by privileges when speaking in the Chamber. Conservative MPs deplored what took place but said no action could be directed.

There were suggestions that the Speaker, who was given no chance to halt the MPs because the colonel's name was used at the end of their questions, may rule today on the question of contempt, but that was being discounted last night.

Mr Thomas said afterwards that the MPs acted as they did because they were incensed at the letter sent by the Government naming the colonel in the letter because they would have run the risk of contempt if they had. An MP's correspondence is not covered by privilege.

The political irony of yesterday's dispute over the four Labour backbenchers was that before it occurred Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, announced that she had asked Lord Rawlinson of Ewell to chair a committee to advise her on official reports on contempt of court, defamation and the Official Secrets Act.

Journalists' protest march: Journalists including Lady Jane Wellesey, a delegate from London Radio branch, marched from their annual conference in Whitley Bay to the town's police station yesterday with Mr Crispin Aubrey, one of the three men facing trial under the Official Secrets Act over the *Time* Our articles (our Labour Staff writes).

Mr Aubrey, who says he faces up to 14 years' imprisonment, is a delegate at the NUJ conference. He has to report regularly to the police under the terms of his bail.

The march came after delegates had cheered the news that Colonel B had been named in the Commons. The union sent telegrams thanking MPs for their action "in defence of press freedom".

Parliamentary report, page 12

Tories would make the health service more local and restore pay beds

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Another reorganization of the health service if the Conservatives came to power with the abolition of the "area" of management and organization at district level to create a more local service, was heralded by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Tory spokesman on the social services, in the Commons yesterday.

Opening a debate on the National Health Service, he admitted that the last reorganization, undertaken in 1974 when the Conservatives were in power and Sir Keith Joseph was the Secretary of State, had not been a success.

No one could deny that reorganization had not fulfilled the hopes of its progenitors, he said. But while pledging his party's "unqualified support" for the concept of the

service, he criticized much of its financing and the bureaucratic nature of its management.

He made clear that the Conservatives would not restore prescription charges, abolish free school milk for those not in need of it, reduce subsidies on school meals, and the phasing out of pay beds from the health service hospitals, and reintroduce pay beds where there was a demand for them. The Tory aim, he said, was to create a new partnership with the private sector.

There was a bitter denunciation of the Conservative plan from Mr David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services, who said that Mr Jenkin's proposals would destroy the health service in its present form.

But Mr Jenkin, in view of his party's commitment to reduce public spending, was

cautious about proposals for financing greater efficiency and reducing waiting lists. He agreed that in spite of the need for more money there could be no new injection of funds into the health service in the short term, although there could be better use of present funds.

Mr Jenkin implied that a Conservative government would act to link prescription charges to the rate of inflation, although with the usual exemptions. On other methods of financing the service and on health insurance schemes, he preferred to wait for the report of the royal commission.

On the structure and management of the service, he agreed that the reorganization carried out by the Conservatives was proving too bureaucratic. The aim must be to make the service as local as possible.

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Commons is facing clash next month on tax cuts

By Our Political Editor

The clash between Opposition parties and the Government over reducing income tax is likely to come in the week beginning May 8. The committee stage of the Finance Bill is likely to begin then, probably on the Monday, and with three days to be taken on the floor of the House, amendments seeking a reduction in the standard rate of income tax are likely to be taken first.

Conservatives will move to cut the rate. They will probably be supported by Liberal MPs and John Pardon, the Liberal spokesman, can bring further concessions from the Government before then.

The Government published the Finance Bill yesterday. Its second reading will be next Thursday, traditionally two weekends elapse between second reading and committee stage. The committee stage has not yet been announced, but after government and opposition discussions it emerged that the week of May 8 was most likely.

The Liberals are committed to seeking to cut income tax either by reducing the standard rate, or by widening upwards the proposed lower rate band.

The Conservatives want to cut both the standard rate and the highest rates. Although they are not permitted to propose compensating methods of raising the revenue lost thereby, they will seek to explain their position to the public well in advance.

In 'The Times' tomorrow

Liberté



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AIR FRANCE
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ig transition ed for applicants

its proposals for coping with the crisis of the Community Commission has come out in following a transition period of years for Greece, Spain and at the same time it says that not be made now on restructuring throughout the 'Twelve' would the crisis that enlarge it being, especially for Britain

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'Mass deception' in repatriation

The British military authorities used brutality and a "detailed scheme of deception" in the repatriation of Russians from Italy at the end of the war, according to an anonymous report disclosed in the third volume of the file on Operation Keelhaul

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Salt talks begin

Mr Cyrus Vance and Mr Andrei Gromyko both described as "exceptionally important" the strategic arms limitation talks which began in Moscow. They expressed hopes that the talks would be successful but neither side flinched from detailing points of disagreement

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Everest attempt

The first attempt to climb Everest without oxygen has begun. The aftermath of severe weather during winter has already forced the two climbers—Reinhold Messner and Peter Habeler—to modify their plans. They are now starting on the Lhotse face

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Wales Bill repairs

The Government will repair, with conditional Conservative help, damage done to the Wales Bill in Wednesday's Commons votes

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Yugoslavia: A three-page Special Report on the most delicately placed country in Europe

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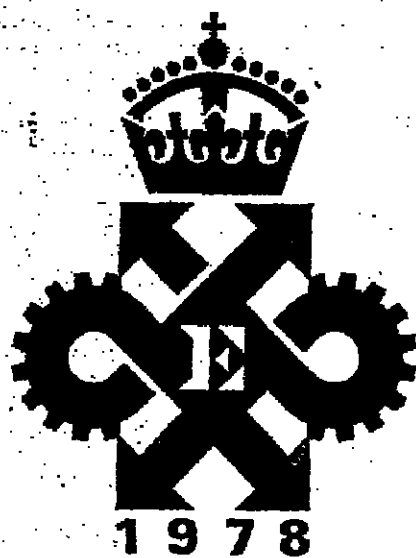
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Rare honour for J & B.

Justerini and Brooks Limited are proud to announce that they have been honoured with The Queen's Award for Export Achievement for 1978.

The Company's Directors would like to thank those who have made this award possible - the export team in Britain and overseas. This consists of the management and staff in London, their sister company Justerini & Brooks (Scotland) Limited, Strathleven Bonded Warehouses Limited and also the Company's main distributors and agents abroad:

AFRICA

ALGERIA: Jamart International S.A.R.L., Algiers.
 BENIN: Kheir M Kheir, Cotonou.
 BOTSWANA: Botswana Liquor Manufacturers (Pty) Ltd, Gaborone.
 CAMEROUN: Compagnie Soudanaise, Douala.
 CAPE VERDE ISLANDS: Ricardo Jose Serradas & Co Ltd, St Vincent.
 CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE: Compagnie Soudanaise, Bangui.
 CHAD: Compagnie Soudanaise, Njamena.
 CONGO BRAZZAVILLE: S.A.I.V.A., Brazzaville.
 GABON: Compagnie Soudanaise, Libreville.
 GHANA: Ghana Tourist Development Corporation, Accra.
 IVORY COAST: Ogema, Abidjan.
 KENYA: Gilbeys East Africa Ltd, Nairobi.
 KENYA: K.W.A.L., Nairobi.
 LIBERIA: C.A.T.C.O., Monrovia.
 MADAGASCAR: S.O.D.I.A.C., Tamatave.
 MALAWI: Malawi Distilleries Ltd, Blantyre.
 MAURITIUS: Gilbeys (Mauritius) Ltd, Port Louis.
 MOROCCO: Casablanca Sales Co, Casablanca.
 NIGER: Compagnie Soudanaise, Niamey.
 NIGERIA: F.M. Marshall & Co Ltd, Lagos.
 REUNION: Société Bourbonnaise de Représentation, St Denis.
 SENEGAL: Ets Martre Frères, Dakar.
 SEYCHELLES: Victoria Super, Victoria.
 SIERRA LEONE: K. Chellaram & Sons (Sierra Leone) Ltd, Freetown.
 SOUTH AFRICA: Gilbey Distillers & Vintners (Pty) Ltd, Stellenbosch.
 SOUTH WEST AFRICA: Gilbey & Tauber (Pty) Ltd, Windhoek.
 SUDAN: Acropole Hotel, Khartoum.
 SWAZILAND: Gilbeys (Swaziland), Manzini.
 TOGO: Joseph Barsouma, Lomé.
 TUNISIA: S.T.I.L., Tunis.
 UPPER VOLTA: Compagnie Soudanaise, Ouagadougou.
 ZAIRE: Vicobel, Kinshasa.
 ZAMBIA: Z.N.W.M.C., Lusaka.

CANADA

Gilbey Canada Ltd, Toronto.
 Quebec Imports Inc, Montreal.

CARIBBEAN & WEST INDIES

ANTIGUA: Quin Farara's Liquor Store, St John's.
 ARUBA: Harms Brothers, Oranjestad.
 BAHAMAS: Bahamas Blenders Ltd, Nassau.
 BARBADOS: Stokes & Bynoe Ltd, Bridgetown.
 BERMUDA: John F Burrows & Co Ltd, Hamilton.
 BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS: Roadtown Wholesale (1975) Ltd, Tortola.
 CAYMAN ISLANDS: Jacques Scott & Co, Grand Cayman.
 CURACAO: El Louvre S.A., Willemstad.
 CURACAO: Hector Henriquez B. Inc, Willemstad.
 GRENADA: Bryden & Minors Ltd, St George's.

GUADELOUPE: Compagnie Guadeloupéenne de Boissons, Gazeuses, Pointe-à-Pitre.
 HAITI: Mr Najeeb Goo Indonice, Port-au-Prince.
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 MONTSERRAT: Rams Emdee Enterprises, Plymouth.
 ST KITTS: International Agencies, Basseterre.
 ST LUCIA: Insurance & Agencies Ltd, Castries.
 ST MAARTEN: Caribbean Liquors & Tobacco, Philipsburg.
 ST VINCENT: Island House, Kingstown.
 TRINIDAD: Stokes & Bynoe (Trinidad) Ltd, Port-of-Spain.
 TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS: Tower Hill Merchants Ltd.
 UNITED STATES FORCES/CARIBBEAN: Echo International, Springfield, Mass.
 US VIRGIN ISLANDS: West Indies Corporation, St Thomas.

EUROPE

ANDORRA: Moët-Hennessy.
 AUSTRIA: Dr Heinrich Kreissler, Vienna.
 AZORES: Armando & Simoes Lda, S Miguel.
 BELGIUM: R. R. Renglet sa, Brussels.
 CANARY ISLANDS: Comercial J.G., Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.
 CANARY ISLANDS: J.P. Rodriguez, Santa Cruz de Tenerife.
 CHANNEL ISLANDS: G. Orange & Co Ltd, Jersey.
 CHANNEL ISLANDS: Mackay & Co Ltd, Guernsey.
 DENMARK: John M. Klein & Co, Copenhagen.
 FINLAND: O.Y.E. Hasselberg AB, Helsinki.
 FRANCE: Moët-Hennessy, Paris.
 WEST GERMANY: Chandon Handelsgesellschaft mbh, Munich.
 WEST GERMANY: Tuxedo GmbH, Hamburg.
 GIBRALTAR: Lewis Stagnetto Ltd.
 GREECE: S. & E. & A. Metaxa Distilleries SA, Athens.
 HOLLAND: Fourcroy Nederland, The Hague.
 ICELAND: Polaris Ltd, Reykjavik.
 REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Gilbeys of Ireland Ltd, Dublin.
 ITALY: Dateo Import spa, Milan.
 GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG: Caves J.P. Wengler-Weber & Cie, Rosport.
 MADEIRA: Dias & Cardoso Lda, Funchal.
 MALTA: Paolo Bonnici & Co, Valletta.
 NORWAY: Jami A/S, Oslo.
 PORTUGAL: Sileno, Lisbon.
 SPAIN: G.E.C.E.P.S.A., Madrid.
 SWEDEN: AB Sven Clase, Malmo.
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AFGHANISTAN: Shayne International.
 AUSTRALIA: Gilbeys Australia Pty Ltd, Sydney.
 BANGLADESH: Dacca Warehouse, Dacca.
 GUAM: Cornell Bros Co Ltd, Agaña.
 HONG KONG: A. Dransfield & Co Ltd.

IRAN: J. Hollingsworth & Partner, Tehran.
 INDIA: Mohan Lall & Co (Warehouse), New Delhi.
 INDONESIA: Boustead Trading (Singapore) Pte Ltd.
 JAPAN: Mitsui & Co Ltd, Tokyo.
 SOUTH KOREA: Jinro Ltd, Seoul.
 MALAYSIA: Boustead Trading Sdn Bhd, Kuala Lumpur.
 NEW CALEDONIA: Edouard Rabot, Noumea.
 NEW ZEALAND: Gilbeys New Zealand Ltd, Auckland.
 PACIFIC ISLANDS: Kerr Bros Pty Ltd, Sydney.
 PAKISTAN: Foremost Trading Co, Karachi.
 PHILIPPINES: Soriamont Trading, Manila.
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 SINGAPORE: Boustead Trading (Singapore) Pte Ltd, Collyer Quay.
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 TAIWAN: A. Dransfield & Co Ltd.
 THAILAND: Martin & Grand Co Ltd, Bangkok.
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LATIN AMERICA

ARGENTINA: Proviant S.A.I.C., Buenos Aires.
 BELIZE: Gonzalo Quinto & Sons, Belize City.
 BOLIVIA: Destileria Boliviana, La Paz.
 BRAZIL: Selected Blends Importação e Exportação Ltda, São Paulo.
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 PANAMA: Motta Internacional S.A., Colón.
 PARAGUAY: Imexpaco del Paraguay S.R.L., Asunción.
 PERU: Rodblu Ltd, S.A., Lima.
 SURINAM: Unimark N.V., Paramaribo.
 URUGUAY: Rodolfo Medeiros S.A., Montevideo.
 VENEZUELA: Trafalgar de Venezuela C.A., Caracas.

MIDDLE EAST

ARABIAN GULF: African & Eastern (Near East) Ltd, Bahrain.
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 EGYPT: Sercom, Cairo.
 IRAQ: State Trade Organisation, Baghdad.
 ISRAEL: Nathan Zwy & Co Ltd, Haifa.
 JORDAN: Elias Bakhit Stores, Amman.
 LEBANON: Amievco Trading Co, Beirut.
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RARE

SCOTCH WHISKY



Judge says plot 'to some extent converted Birmingham into a municipal Gomorrah'

By a Staff Reporter.

Sentencing two directors and a former director of the Bryant building company of Birmingham to terms of imprisonment, Mr Justice Melford Stevenson referred at the Central Criminal Court yesterday to a list of gifts and said: "No one can look at the many closely typed pages recording regular bribes distributed by the Bryant company without a feeling of revulsion."

He said there had been a conspiracy that to some extent succeeded in converting Birmingham into "a municipal Gomorrah".

Maurice Barwick, 52, of Lapworth, Warwickshire, was sentenced to five years' imprisonment and disqualified from holding a company directorship for a similar period; Raymond Samuel, 51, of Knowle, Solihull, West Midlands, was jailed for four years, and Ernest Hubbard, 45, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, for three years.

They had all pleaded guilty in charges of corruption, giving an inducement to officials and members of local authorities to show favour on building projects to C. Bryant and Son.

Mr Barwick, a married man with two children, was a former managing director of Bryant's and until yesterday a senior director; Mr Samuel, single, was head of the group's civil engineering division; Mr Hubbard, a married man with two children, was, until five years ago, joint managing director of Bryant's and since resigning had had jobs in Leicestershire with building and insurance companies.

Before passing sentence, the judge said it was obvious that Mr Barwick had himself to a scheme designed to bribe many people, ranging from clerks of works to aldermen,

chairmen of committees of various kinds, "indeed anyone in relation to whom it was thought worth while to invest in influence he was able to employ".

Mr Barwick and his fellow conspirators had set themselves to convert Birmingham into a municipal Gomorrah and to some extent succeeded, he said. The principal instrument of that corruption was the city architect, Mr Alan Maudsley.

The judge continued: "Corruption on the scale that this case has revealed is a very serious matter of public interest."

Mr Anthony Cripps, QC, for the prosecution, had told the judge that it was purely fortuitous that the number of charges to which Mr Hubbard had pleaded guilty was greater than the other two men. The substantive offences had been selected as specimens and had concerned Mr Hubbard.

Mr Barwick was the only one of the three to admit a conspiracy charge alleging that he and members of local authorities had been given gifts as inducements to show favour to the company between 1963 and 1973.

Mr Brian Appleby, QC, for the defence of Mr Hubbard, said in mitigation that Mr Hubbard had worked for Bryant's all his working life and had made his way up from a quantity surveyor to company director. Although that directorship had given him a title and status, he had no part in making policy.

He had been instructed to submit names of people with whom his department dealt so that they could be provided with Christmas gifts. He had resigned from the company in 1973, having realised that his directorship was a sham and that he was being used because he played golf and was liked

by people. His guilt lay in the fact that he had not had the courage to leave before.

Mr Brian Escott-Cox, QC, for the defence of Mr Barwick, said he joined the company straight from school and rose rapidly. His father had been the caretaker of the company's original depot in Birmingham. His fault had been "an excess of zeal and loyalty to the company and to its founders."

Mr Barwick had not been an instigator of the corruption in the company, and counsel described Mr Alan Maudsley, the former Birmingham city architect, as a man "who knew how to let his tongue hang out". Mr Maudsley, he said, let it be known that he wanted to be entertained and unforgetfully the temptation being put in the way, it was a temptation that was fallen for.

Mr Philip Otton, QC for the defence of Mr Samuel, said his client's main usefulness had been that he was a bachelor who was readily available to make up a party and on occasions to organize one. As Mr Maudsley became greener and more demanding, Mr Samuel and other directors felt that they had to fall in with his wishes.

Earlier this week, Christopher Bryant, 45, of Saintbury, Broadway, Hereford and Worcester, the head of the company, was found not guilty on two charges alleging conspiracy to corrupt council officials and members.

On May 9, C. Bryant and Son and Bryant Holdings will face charges alleging that they were parties to the offences. A representative of the Birmingham solicitors acting for Mr Denis Howell, Minister of State (Sport and Water Resources) Department of the Environment, said a statement from him after the mention of his name as being on a company list of gifts would not be made until after that date.



Major-General George S. Patton, son of the Second World War commander, inspecting the passing-out parade of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, RAC, at Bovington, Dorset, yesterday.

Scheme of mass deception and brutality alleged in repatriation camps

British soldiers 'fought unarmed Russians'

By Peter Hennessy and John Crossland

An inquiry into allegations of brutality by British troops involved in the forcible repatriation of Russians from Italy in 1946 is disclosed in volume three of the file on Operation Keelhaul released by the Public Record Office yesterday.

The inquiries, ordered by the Foreign Office and the War Office, centre on an anonymous report of the operations charging the British military authorities with, among other things, applying a "detailed scheme of mass deception".

It also describes an alleged fight between 300 unarmed Russians and "several companies" of British and American infantry armed with machine guns, in which between 30 and 40 of the escort were said to have been either wounded or killed.

The note of urgency informing the request for information is explained by the fact that Mr Richard Stokes, the Labour MP, and a keen campaigner in humanitarian causes, had given notice that he intended to raise the issue of repatriation in the Commons.

In his signal to Headquarters Combined Mediterranean Force Major-General H. Murray (now General Sir Horatia Murray), Director of Personal Services at the War Office, said Mr Stokes "was expected to make special reference to letters and reports in his possession".

The mysterious report details a repatriation operation from Rimini. It says: "On May 8, 1947, the British military authorities in Italy forcibly handed over to the Soviet group of Russians who were kept in a concentration camp in Rimini. On the same day another group of Russians from the American camp in Pisa was also handed over to the Soviets."

The whole area of the concentration camp, together with the nearby small town of Riccione, was surrounded by military detachments of considerable strength. Local Italian population was forbidden the use of roads and streets. They were told that some dangerous Fascist and war criminals were to be surrendered to the Soviets.

It is commonly known, however, that under various pretexts at different times all former Soviet citizens from the DP camps in Italy were brought to Rimini. There were among them women, children, old people, youngsters, doctors, scientists, a small number of the Red Army soldiers and four or five officers. All these people had no politics.

Altogether about 300 men were to be surrendered in both camps. Out of them only about 200 were transported to the Soviet zone of Austria. The rest are dead. Some of them have committed suicide and some were killed by the escort while resisting forcible deportation.

In a fight of 300 unarmed Russians with several companies of British and American soldiers, armed with machine guns and automatic weapons, between 30 and 40 British and American officers and men were either killed or wounded. Official observers of four powers, the United States, Britain, France

and the Soviet Union, kept a watching brief over the affair. The report accuses the Army of having "probably studied methods of Dachau, Plaszow and other notorious Nazi camps" in devising a carefully worked out and "detailed scheme of mass deception" to lure the DPs on to the trains.

British officers, including representatives of the former Allied Control Commission, gave the refugees the word of honour "of a British officer and a gentleman that no one would be forcibly repatriated."

When this aim was achieved and the British military authorities had ascertained Soviet citizenship of a number of DPs, these people were collected in one camp in Rimini. Then another stage of preparation was arranged.

On August 14, 1947, all inmates of the Bagnoli camp (Russian group) were, under a false pretence, transferred to the POW camp near Rimini and all former Soviet citizens, including women, children, old men and youngsters, whose names were on the list, were put behind a barbed wire fence under military guard. People were housed during the winter under temperatures of some 25 degrees centigrade of frost in army tents.

Considerable time was needed to bring the refugees to a quiet mood. Indignation and despair among them were so great that the British military authorities were obliged to take steps to justify their action. Principal of these steps were that refugees were officially told that their repatriation was arranged to safeguard their safety from Soviet interference.

To be concluded

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Loyalist rift widens in Ulster

From Christopher Walker, Belfast

The Government's decision to increase the number of Northern Ireland MPs by a maximum of six has sharply increased differences between "loyalist" politicians at a sensitive period when local parties are making plans to contest the next general election.

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, in a statement issued yesterday, accused the Government of selling Ulster short and announced that he would be tabling an amendment to increase the constituencies in the province to at least 20. According to Mr Paisley, the now defunct Loyalist coalition agreed on that number three years ago.

Mr Paisley's sharp response was in contrast with that of the Official Unionists, the largest single party in Northern Ireland, who warmly welcomed the Government's idea.

"Once again Ulster has been betrayed", he said. "The real need is not a few more seats in Ulster tomorrow or the next day, but a proper Parliament and government at Stormont."

Wide personality and policy differences between the two parties are a threat to the prospects of loyalist candidates in several of the 12 present Ulster constituencies. All attempts to form the type of electoral pact practised in the past have so far failed.

Earlier this week in Londonderry, where the MP is Mr William Ross, Official Unionist, Mr Paisley's group approached his local constituency association about finding an agreed candidate. But local spokesmen are strongly opposed to Mr Ross's being asked to step aside.

The DUP intends to field candidates in other seats held by Official Unionists, including that of the parliamentary leader, Mr James Moynihan, of Antrim, South.

Engineering workers voice phase-four opposition

By Donald MacIntyre, Labour Reporter

The militancy of opposition to another year of wage restraint in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is shown by motions to be presented to its main policy-making body next month.

The agenda of the national committee of the dominant engineering section, published yesterday, contains 27 separate motions condemning continued government intervention in pay bargaining.

They are supported by calls for the minimum craftsman's weekly rate, now being increased in phases to £60 a week, to be raised to between £80 to £100 a week.

Despite the absence of motions supporting continued restraint on the outcome of the debate at Worthing in a fortnight will be determined by manoeuvring between the left and their moderate opponents, who are likely to have a controlling majority on the committee.

Among the militant motions are those apparently aimed at avoiding last year's dispute which ended in an attempted

left-wing rebellion in the AUEW delegation against the casting of the union's vote at the TUC in favour of the 12-month rule.

One resolution "rejects the arbitrary imposition by the Government or the TUC of the principle of 12-month intervals between pay settlements". Another urges the union to support unequivocally a return to free collective bargaining at the TUC in September.

The resolutions, one of which demands the full weight of industrial action against employers if their claims are rejected, partly reflects the anger of skilled groups over erosion of differentials. But in the long run at least as significant may be several motions pressing for a new policy.

Opposition to income policy is evident in the agenda for the conference of the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) at Margate next month. It includes demands of increases up to 65 per cent.

Several resolutions press for a 35-hour week, but want basic rates for most members raised from £42.80 a week to between £60 and £70.

Tory plea on union policy

By Our Political Reporter

Whether the Conservatives could get on with the unions posed a challenge to the credibility of the party as an alternative government, Mr John Biffen, Conservative MP for Oswestry, and a former Shadow Cabinet member, told the Chelsea Conservative Political Centre last night.

"It is no use disguising from ourselves that such is the reality", he said. "There is a formidable task. We must, by our words and deeds, exorcise the spectre of industrial conflict that characterized the era of 1970-74."

He urged the party not to be defensive about industrial relations policy. "We need tremble

only at our uncertainty." Commenting on a speech last week by Mr Wedgwood Benn, he said the Secretary of State for Energy had demonstrated that government-trade union relations in one Parliament were no guide as to what they would be in a later Parliament.

"The conclusion is clear and the moral encouraging. There is no reason to suppose that the next Conservative government will have trade union relations analogous to the 1970-74 experience."

"Indeed, I will hazard the guess that there is much more likelihood that relations will evolve towards the pattern we experienced in the 13 Tory years of 1951-64."

Kidney fund criticizes Budget plan

By Our Health Services Correspondent

The National Kidney Research Fund yesterday questioned the usefulness of the Budget announcement of £3.5m for 400 new kidney machines because of the difficulties of finding the space and staff to run them.

It said it did not understand the Chancellor's proposals since it had always been the responsibility of the health service to provide the machines. The proposal showed a complete lack of understanding of the real situation.

The shortage had never been of machines but of staff and space. It seemed somewhat senseless to provide machines but not other resources needed. A machine cost about £6,000 and at least £10,000 a year to run.

Three new committees to govern Schools Council

The Schools Council for curriculum and examinations was formally reestablished yesterday with a new structure and under a new chairman.

The governing body of the council approved its own replacement by three smaller interdependent committees: a convocation, on which the teachers will have only two fifths of the places and lay interests such as parents, trade unions and industry have a greater say; a professional committee, on which teachers will have a majority of three fifths; and a finance and priorities committee, 11 of whose 28 places will be taken by teachers and local authorities and eight by the Secretaries of State for Education and Science and for Wales.

The convocation will be responsible for keeping the school curriculum and public examinations system under review and for making recommendations to the other two committees.

The finance and priorities committee will "determine the broad direction and priorities of the work of the council... give advice on those matters to the Secretaries of State and local authorities... specify the funds available and broad uses to which they shall be put... (and) determine action to be taken on any recommendations for convocation."

The professional committee will be responsible for carrying out the work of the council within the guidelines laid down by the finance and priorities committee.

Professor William Wallace, chairman of the education and development committee of the Association of University Teachers, said yesterday that the decisions would clearly be taken by the finance and priorities committee, on which there was no university or outside lay representation.

Mr John Tomlinson, Chief Education Officer for Cheshire, took over chairmanship of the council from Sir Alex Smith, who retired after two years in the post in order to devote more time to his job as Director of Manchester Polytechnic.

'Sun' seeking stronger foothold in the North

By Our Labour Staff

The Sun may be published in Scotland as well as London within a year if negotiations for a printing base succeed.

News International confirmed yesterday that it is holding discussions with the Outram group with the aim of having the paper printed in Glasgow under contract.

The move is seen as an important step in the Sun's battle to establish itself as the biggest-selling British newspaper. The management hopes initially to double its present Scottish sale of 200,000 copies. The present total circulation of the paper is put by News International at 3,500,000.

The Outram group is renovating and re-equipping the former Daily Express building in Albion Street, Glasgow, and aims to publish the Evening Times and The Glasgow Herald from there from January.

The Sun's pages would be transmitted in facsimile form from London to Glasgow, so that composing facilities would not be required.

The move could also provide The Sun with a foothold for

consolidating sales in northern, and particularly north-eastern, England and possible expansion into Northern Ireland.

The plans for a Scottish base were disclosed in later editions of The Times yesterday.

The company has also been discussing a possible printing base with other Scottish publishers, but Mr Bert Hardy, managing director and chief executive of News International, declined yesterday to disclose who they were.

"The discussions are at a very early stage", he said. "It will have to be a commercial proposition, and if it was not we would not go ahead. Although it is very early days we have told our managers and union officials about the discussions to avoid their learning of it by rumour. We believe that the most likely prospect of development at the moment is in Scotland."

The move, which would not be made before next March, was not part of a battle against the Daily Mirror or the Daily Record, the Mirror's sister paper in Scotland. "Our only battle is to sell more newspapers", he said.

Mr Lane says MPs' race report is harmful

The main effect of the recent select committee report on race relations will be damaging, according to Mr David Lane, director of the Commission for Racial Equality.

In an open letter to Mr Merlyn Rees, Home Secretary, which gives the commission's formal view of the report, he says he regrets "that the commission's several valuable recommendations are overshadowed by those which we consider highly objectionable or dangerous and by the discriminatory flavour of so much of their report."

In particular, he says, the commission is opposed to suggestions of an overall or target figure or quota. "If general, this would delay further the reuniting of families; if particular (for instance, applied only to the Indian subcontinent) it would be stigmatising and objectionable as discriminatory."

The commission also opposes recommendations that the age limit for children to be admitted as of right should go down to 12 years, that a time limit should be set for applications by United Kingdom passport holders for special vouchers. It opposes the institution of a system of internal control of immigration and is concerned over recommendations for "substantially more resources and more elaborate checks to tackle illegal immigration."

But Mr Lane says the commission welcomes the Government's immediate rejection of several of the more objectionable recommendations, and is "glad to note your recent confirmation of the Government's intention to honour the existing commitments."

Mr Lane also urges the Government to respond quickly to the recommendations that there should be better information on immigration, measures to help United Kingdom passport holders in India, the ending of the "grandparental" special treatment, and improved processing of applications.

In the first part of his letter, which states the commission's general policy, Mr Lane writes: "We are gravely concerned at this time that a too restrictive immigration policy, aimed plainly and principally at coloured people, with its implication of undesirability, would fuel prejudice among the population generally and would intensify feelings of apprehension and insecurity among the minority communities."

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TUC link and strike rights urged for police

By Paul Roudledge

An independent report drawn up for the David Davies committee on police officers' rights should be sent to the TUC.

After a 15-month survey, attitudes ranging from anti-officers to the Industrial Society has proposed that the Police Federation should be recognised as a genuine trade union whose members should have the legal rights enjoyed by a shop or 1969 up to the appropriate workers.

The survey, originally commissioned by the Federation during the period of mounting unrest in the service, has been taken into the general inquiry set up by Mr Merlyn Rees, the Home Secretary, and headed by Lord Edmund Davies.

A copy of the final report is to go to the Home Secretary as the Government will have to decide whether to implement its findings. But the action recommendations in the Industrial Society's survey, coming from a body that has the support of both sides of industry, are expected to be heavily considered at the Scottish Police Federation meeting, Fife, near Wednesday.

The Federation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland have since then its contents in paper is likely to be the subject of a joint policy conference in September.

The Industrial Society was asked to identify changes in the law needed to allow the Police Federation to become an independent trade union in the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974, and its report calls for changes in the law to remove restrictions on the police.

Police would involve giving police officers the right to strike, the right to associate in a trade union unfettered by legal restrictions, and the right to affiliate to the TUC. The latter would protect the new union from "poaching" the service by other established unions already belonging to the TUC.

The Industrial Society's survey on reconstituting the Federation further identifies changes needed to give police the same rights and labour law that other workers have had for years. Included are the right to the Statutory Payments Act 1965, the right to the Employment Act 1972, the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act 1974 and 1977, and the Employment Protection Act 1975.

Looking to European models, it argues that police should be the Continent already many of the rights now sought by disgruntled officers. A constable here, and change in British law would mean bringing the United Kingdom in line with forces in the rest of the EEC.

The Industrial Society's inquiry team, led by Mr J. Pearson, head of its industrial relations service, was asked to decide whether such fundamental changes in the way policemen argued the case and protected the employment rights would damage the service or lead to disaffection in the Armed Services.

The survey says experience elsewhere suggests that allowing the police to have genuine trade union status have no effect on such sensitive police opinions on the quality of men who join the police force.

The society's inquiry team has had talks with all the interested police bodies. Home Office officials and other interested parties and the police have been consulted through the Police Federation, and the report is being sent to the Home Secretary.

Police have long complained about the next most frustrating aspect of service life: their inability to represent their views like any other group in the country.

Leading article, page 1

One-way screen recommended at identity parades

One-way viewing screen should be used wherever possible for police identity parades in Scotland to ease the fears of frightened witnesses, a report published yesterday said.

The report, which also said that such screens were already in use in some areas, was prepared by a working party headed by Sheriff Principal William Bryden, to consider the recommendation of the Devil's Committee report on identity in 1976 were rare vent to Scottish criminal law.

It decided that the Devil's recommendations that only in exceptional circumstances should there be a conviction based solely on identification by witnesses and that there should be statutory codes for the conduct of identity parades were not applicable to Scotland.

Scotland's system of criminal investigation and the availability of the not proven verdict reduced the likelihood of conviction based on mistaken identity.

But the report recommended that accused people should have the right to ask a court to order an identity parade. In 1973, the report added, there were more than 10,000 identity parades in England and Wales, and the suspect was identified in fewer than half.

In Scotland in 1975 there were 1,500 parades and the suspect was identified in three quarters of the cases.

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HOME NEWS

Britain's food, 4: Industry sensitive to criticism

Many new laws but little change

A textbook published in 1912 told students of food science how to spot potato starch in flour, flour in mustard, ground date-stones masquerading as coffee, and lard used to adulterate butter.

At the beginning of 1978 Marion Gordon wrote in *How To Be Exploited: "Amaranth is used in blackcurrant drinks to cover up the fact that the natural colour fades to brown after three months and would therefore look less appealing to consumers on the shop shelves. Since by that time it has lost most of its vitamin C content as well, consumers are doubly deceived."*

It looks as if nothing has changed despite the growth in detailed laws about health, hygiene, packing and labelling that govern every aspect of the work of the food industry. When the Food and Drink Industries Council had read Marion Gordon's book, it said: "If anyone doubted that our whole industry was under unrestrained attack, the evidence is there."

The industry is proud of producing cheap and variegated food so efficiently that most of the working population can be fed adequately without making any contribution to the production of food. It is acutely sensitive to criticism and has reacted with despair, anger and finally guilt to the growth of the organized consumer lobby.

Ministers have recognized the inadequacy of much food law by ordering reviews of much of it, ranging from the wording of sausage labels to the much wider question of defining what is wholesome, and fairly presented.

Something else that demands improvement is Britain's attitude to EEC food policy. The 1975 White Paper, *Food From Our Own Resources*, was published just before the EEC referendum campaign ended with a national vote to remain in the Community. It approached self-sufficiency on the basis of what could be produced in Britain.

Before the next edition of the White Paper is published the Government and those it consults must decide what they think the EEC is for. They must decide how far they want to accept that British self-sufficiency is part of a wider EEC issue and whether they consider that the Community self-sufficiency should be decided by the extent to which the whole EEC can meet the demands of all of its population.

For example, should Britain's plan to enlarge home output of sugar beet and reduce dependence on tropical cane imports be curtailed because some Community countries grow more beet than they can use? It is hard for an island race to adjust its thinking enough to accept supplies from overseas as strategically equivalent food. It is much easier for those other countries to look on Britain as a legitimate dumping ground for their unavoidable food surpluses.

Domestic supplies, almost half of our bacon and the Irish Republic much of our butter, cheese and store cattle. Holland wants to sell more ham in this country, France, West Germany, Italy and the three applicant countries to the

EEC all see Britain as a prime outlet for their food and drink.

A national food policy must take account of the way food is produced as well as the amount. The apocalyptic view of the approaching doom of fuel-hungry technological food production was given authoritative support at the Oxford Farming Conference in January.

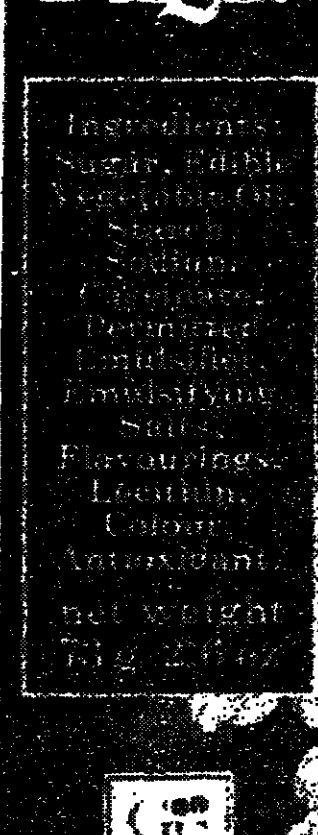
Distance-water fishing is one of the costliest ways of producing food, in terms of energy. Farming has reduced labour at the expense of increasing dependence on machinery and the fuel that powers it. Sir Kenneth Blaxter, director of the Rowett Research Institute, Aberdeen, said at Oxford: "Our present farming methods have been developed because oil has been cheap."

He found it "a sobering thought" that in the period in which farm yields had doubled, the input of nitrogen fertilizer had risen 20-fold. "We are going to run desperately short of oil in a matter of decades", he added.

The 1975 White Paper paid some attention to such issues. But it was much more interested in establishing how much extra food farmers could be expected to produce.

The new version should be much wider than that. It should examine in detail changes in consumption, nutritional needs, the presence of the EEC and its likely enlargement. It should also consider how far the elimination of waste in the food chain will exceed its cost, and how it should explain how it expects its programmes to be financed. Concluded.

Angel Delight



The ingredients suggest plenty of flavour but no fruit. The words "strawberry flavour" can each be displayed with equal prominence.

Stricter TB checks for Asians sought

By Our Medical Correspondent
Stricter health controls are needed on Asian immigrants, the Joint Tuberculosis Committee of the British Thoracic Association says in a report published in the *British Medical Journal* today. Despite a steady decline in the number of cases of tuberculosis reported each year in Britain, the disease remains common among Asian immigrants and its frequency is increasing in some immigrant communities such as the London borough of Brent.

About 1 per cent of new arrivals from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and the Far East have active tuberculosis. That is 20 times the rate in people born in Britain. Each year four-fifths of those immigrants arrived at terminal three at Heathrow airport, yet only a fifth of them had health checks there, largely because the health control unit has limited staff and only one X-ray machine.

Some countries insist that all immigrants should be immunized, the report adds, but compulsory vaccination is not allowed under British law.

The committee says the immigration authorities should obtain accurate information on the destinations of all new arrivals from Asia, so that the local health authorities can have them examined and treated. All children of immigrants should be vaccinated at birth and checked again when they start school.

Political fortunes beset by apathy in West Midlands campaign

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

Labour's political fortunes in next month's district council elections in West Midlands remain bleak. There seems little sign of any improvement on the dismal performance of last year when a savaging in the county council elections saw Labour reduced to a rump of only 19 members.

The customary apathy of the occasion will again be decisive in what promises to be an even more sluggish campaign than usual. There is of course a succession of commonplace debates but all parties agree that few are of sufficient importance to set the pulses racing or serve as potential rallying points. To all intents and purposes it appears that national politics have sunk them without trace.

Birmingham council tenants have been told of a rent increase of about 80p a week, which is due in June but the few canvassers at work report a resigned response and a shrug of the shoulders as the people ask: "So what else is new?"

The Liberals are pushing the point but as yet do not know if there will be much electoral return in it. In the past two years Birmingham's controlling Conservative group has given a steady performance in the financial sector as it was pledged to do. It has now been able to announce one of the big advantages in its appeal to the owner-occupier by saying that rate increases will be

Local Elections

At Sandwell Conservatives are fighting each of the 31 seats, including one casual vacancy, and need to win six of the 21 Labour-held seats for control. Since 1975 their performance has improved steadily and in the two years they have taken a total of 17 seats from Labour. The Conservative challenge there and at Wolverhampton is being backed by Mr Michael Heseltine. Opposition spokesmen on the environment with a brisk day of personal persuasion on Wednesday.

The Liberals are fighting about a third of the region's seats, including 23 in Birmingham and 19 at Coventry. They are defending five, including three in Birmingham, one at Solihull and another at Hale-soven in the Dudley area. They think there is also a possibility of gaining one or two seats in central Birmingham, which has been rewarding territory for them in past years.

The National Front is continuing to challenge in areas immediately outside those with large coloured populations and although there are 22 candidates fighting in Birmingham, 31 in the West Bromwich part of Sandwell, 21 at Wolverhampton and six at Coventry other parties feel there are some signs of the Front's campaign losing momentum compared with previous years.

Last year, for instance, promised to contest every seat in Birmingham but in fact has one fewer candidate than the Liberals. It is felt that that may be a signpost for the future.

No Acas backing for non-TUC union

By Diana Geddes

The Association of Polytechnic Teachers, a non-TUC affiliated union, has suffered a rebuff in its two-year-old campaign to win the right to negotiate on behalf of its members in three polytechnics.

Despite the desire by most of the academic staffs at Lancaster Polytechnic (Coventry), Portsmouth Polytechnic and Polytechnic of North London to be represented by the association, the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) has declined to make any recommendation for recognition of the association by the employers.

Of the 1,371 full-time members of staff who replied to the Acas questionnaire, 719 (52.4 per cent) voted to be represented by the association. 575 said they wanted to be represented by the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education alone, and 13 opted for three other recognized unions.

In arriving at its conclusion not to make any recommendation, Acas states in its report that it has taken into account the views of the teachers at the three polytechnics. However, while most of those who replied indicated a preference for the Association of Polytechnic

Teachers, the service had to balance these views against other considerations, "including the employment policies desired by management, and the existing negotiating procedures".

The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education has 70,000 members, representing about four fifths of the teachers in polytechnics, and colleges of further and higher education outside the universities. The Association of Polytechnic Teachers has 3,500 members, representing a quarter of the staffs in the 30 polytechnics.

The national association, which is affiliated to the TUC, is the only union for teachers in public sector further and higher education, other than those in art or agriculture colleges and college principals, which is represented on the Burnham Committee, the national negotiating body for all further education teachers' salaries.

The Association of Polytechnic Teachers refers to the "inconsistent result of the Acas inquiry". The rate of success of applications by TUC-affiliated unions for recognition through Acas is 98.4 per cent, it says. The rate of success by non-TUC affiliated unions is nil.

New cancer study unit for Oxford

A cancer research unit that will cost £200,000 a year to run is to be set up at Oxford University, the Imperial Cancer Research Fund announced yesterday.

A team of seven, with support staff, will study the importance of different components of cigarette smoke in producing lung cancer and examine the risk from exposure to small amounts of asbestos. The effect of the contraceptive pill on breast cancer, and the relationship between age and cancer will also be studied.

The cancer epidemiology unit will work under Sir Richard Doll, FRS, Regius Professor of Medicine, and Professor Martin Vessey, Professor of Social and Community Medicine, at Oxford.

The fund, which has been criticized recently for holding on to too much capital, estimates that it will spend £7.8m of its £8.8m income this year.

Brookings farewell

Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today, reflects on the missed opportunity to establish a "British Brookings". Professor John Cadogan argues that scientific research in universities has become "a deprived area", and Robin McKie describes the task before the *Finlayson* inquiry on engineering.

In brief

MPs clear child protection Bill

The Protection of Children Bill completed its passage through the Commons late on Wednesday, with a virtual assurance that it will become law this session. It lays down fines of £10,000 or three years' imprisonment for involving children in pornography.

The Bill, sponsored by Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexleyheath, was rescued by the Government after it had been blocked by Mr Ian Mikardo, MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow, because the Tories had delayed a Labour Bill.

Dimbleby relic stolen

The CBE badge presented to the late Mr Richard Dimbleby, the broadcaster, has been stolen from the family's newspaper group offices in Richmond upon Thames.

Teacher for trial

Richard Jenkins, aged 33, a teacher of English at Tenacre, St John's Wood, London, who is accused of stealing works of art and antiques valued at £59,000, was sent in custody for trial at Knightsbridge Crown Court from Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Heath fire subdued

About sixty firemen from Strathclyde subdued a heath fire 20 miles north of Oban yesterday. At times it stretched eight miles along a mountain range.

Tories to seek changes in Bail Act procedures

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Conservatives are to press the Home Secretary to change procedures under the new Bail Act so that court time is not wasted. As reported in *The Times* yesterday the extra paper work has started to slow the work of the courts.

Mr Edward Gardner, QC, MP, an opposition spokesman on home affairs, is to ask Mr Merlyn Rees, Home Secretary, what he intends to do to amend forms and procedures. He complained to the Statutory Instruments Committee of the Commons earlier this week on behalf of

the Magistrates' Association and Justices' Clerks' Society.

He told the committee that the forms that had to be filled in by a magistrates' court refusing bail would be unhelpful to most unrepresented defendants.

Before the Bail Act came into force this week the decision on bail was usually registered briefly by the bench in the court ledger but now courts have to fill in five forms whether or not a defendant is given bail. Business is halted until it is completed. There are further complications if several defendants appear together and are treated differently.

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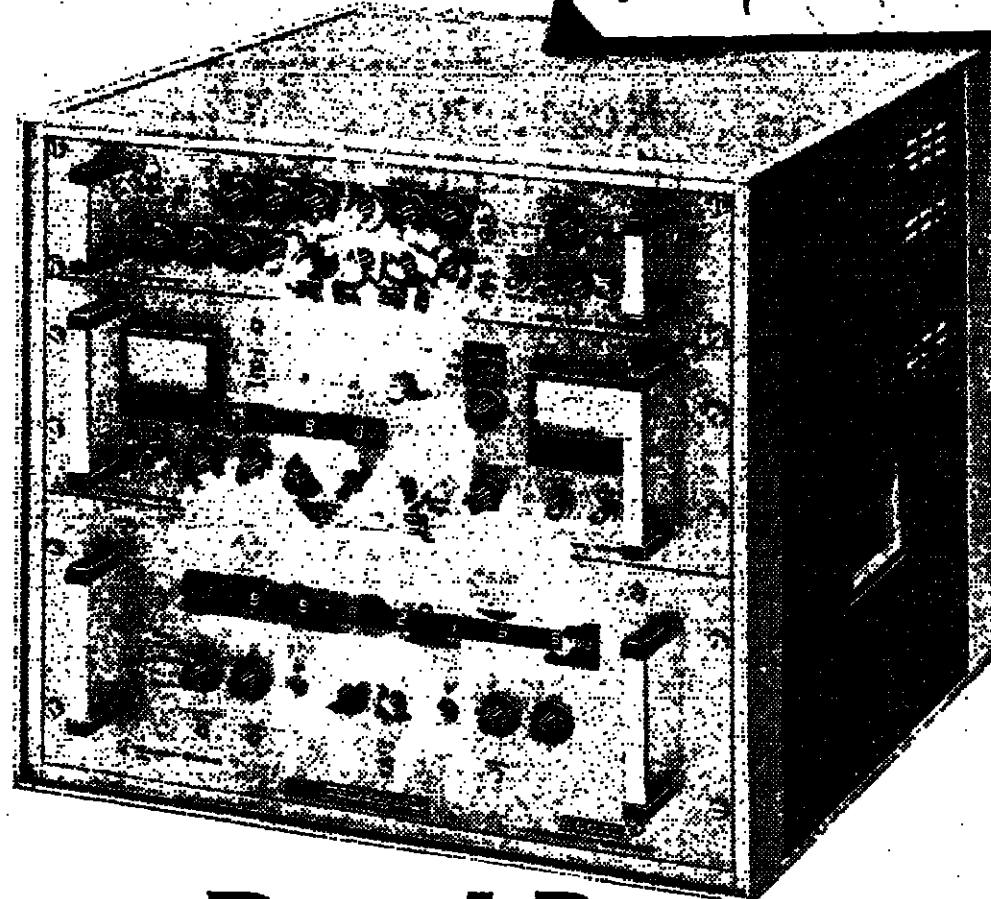
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OVERSEAS

British firm to develop and market rival US aircraft landing system

By Reed
Correspondent

Decision of the all-operations division of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in Montreal to choose an American rather than British landing system has produced disappointment, but not in the British aerospace industry.

From being a "winner" in decision, the success, called time reference beam (TRSB), is to development, manufacturing by competition in any country, the only criterion being that the most produced should be the standards and conditions which ICAO will be laying down.

It is certain that Plessey, the developers of the system which was lost, will develop TRSB and will use it throughout the world. It is said to be worth £2,000m in a fierce competition with the Americans.

It is, in fact, already placed to take up the development of TRSB. The system used on board aircraft is a Doppler microwave system (DMLS) are similar to those used in the TRSB system, and the company has all the knowledge necessary to develop and build ground equipment. Further, it is well advanced in flight testing.

It seems to be no technical reason why Plessey should have a TRSB system ready for the world market by the time the ICAO criteria are formulated and published. The race with the American and Australian, plus their German allies in this begins by the early years of the next decade.

The Civil Aviation Authority, which establishes and oversees technical standards in the world, and which enthusiastically backed DMLS, is likely to encourage the home industry to develop a system rather than have British aircraft and airports forced into a position where they have to use a system "off the shelf" from America.

It is called for a new blind-landing system to be developed using the existing instrument landing system (ILS), which is the most modern airports throughout the world, is becoming outdated.

Developed during and immediately after the Second World War, ILS has an aerial on the

ground at the end of the runway sending out a radio beam which is picked up by receivers on board the aircraft, and down which the aircraft flies to a safe landing in even the worst weather.

Both TRSB and DMLS work on the same basic principle, except that they have the benefit of the enormous technological strides which have been made in this field in recent years.

Using them, ground controllers can direct far more aircraft than they can with ILS, while neither of the new systems is affected by large objects on the ground, such as aircraft hangars, as is ILS.

TRSB and DMLS can also be deployed at airfields surrounded by mountains, where radar echoes make ILS useless.

The main difference between the two modern systems is that whereas DMLS puts out a beam in the shape of a fan into which the incoming aircraft flies, TRSB flashes a beam rapidly to and fro.

The British side has always maintained that the monitoring of aircraft is more efficient with its fan-shaped signal compared to the scanning beam. It has in its Doppler microwave system (DMLS) which, compared with TRSB, the British system can be installed more quickly, and it does not need complicated verification by test aircraft making practice approaches.

A great deal of in-fighting went on between the two sides during the years leading up to the decision in Canada on Wednesday night. At one stage the British alleged that American computer simulation of the DMLS system had not been validated. The British side said that TRSB had "failed" to demonstrate that it can be accurate, safe and economic.

The number of the 63 delegations who voted in the ICAO committee (the voting was 39-24 in favour of TRSB), having completed a serious assessment of the technical attributes of the competing systems, is considered to be small. Most lined up on purely political grounds.

As the British delegation commented afterwards, "those participating were faced with the impossible task of studying and acting upon some 2,000 pages of material on complex operational and technical issues. The time allotted did not permit adequate study by those states which had not previously participated in the many years of preparatory work."

Leading article, page 19

Strife dies down in Turkish riot town

From Sinan Fisek
Ankara, April 20

The town of Malatya had its first calm day since Monday today as four prosecutors questioned some 165 suspects on the terrorism, rioting and looting which left eight dead and dozens injured.

The last clashes between rival factions—rightist and leftist, Sunni and Shia, Kurd and non-Kurd, rioters and troops—ended last night, the third day of the dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed after Mr Hamit Fendoglu, the mayor, and three members of his family were killed by a parcel bomb.

Schools and shops remained closed; shortages of bread and window panes were reported, and troops patrolled the streets of the devastated city as Mr Tufan Ozaydinli, the Interior Minister, flew in for a first-hand inspection.

Before his departure, Mr Ozaydinli told Parliament last night that right-wing terrorists were responsible both for the bomb attack against Mr Fendoglu, an independent conservative, and the rioting in the city of 160,000 inhabitants, some 400 miles east of Ankara.

He said police had uncovered evidence linking the incidents with two underground rightist groups calling themselves the "Turkish Lightning Commandos" and the "Organization for the Liberation of Enslaved Turks".

Documents found at their headquarters in Kahramanmaraş, near Malatya, showed that small children were hired to carry the terrorists' weapons and explosives in order to avoid detection, he said.

Aircrew strike grounds many flights in Japan

Tokyo, April 20.—Nearly half of Japan Air Lines' flights from Tokyo were cancelled today when aircrews went on strike for more pay. The 24-hour stoppage grounded all but three international flights to Europe, the United States and South-east Asia, and 47 of 102 domestic flights.

Flight crew, excluding captains, are demanding a 27.5 per cent increase. Stewards and stewardesses want a 19.5 per cent increase.

Other Japanese strikers returned to work today after causing widespread disruptions during the past 48 hours.

Woman dragged away from Moscow embassy

From Our Own Correspondent
Moscow, April 20

A Soviet woman who has been refused permission to join her American husband in the United States tried to chain herself to the railings of the American Embassy today. The police dragged her into a guard box and then drove her away.

Mrs Irina McClellan and her 18-year-old daughter by a previous marriage just had time to hold up placards saying in Russian "Four years waiting for a visa", and "Let me out to my husband", before being overpowered by the police who guarded the entrances to the embassy.

She had managed to fasten her left arm to the railings with a chain and padlock and screamed out in pain as she was pulled away. The incident was watched by Western correspondents and cameramen who were told beforehand that she planned a demonstration.

Correspondents had also been given copies of her appeal to Mr Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, who arrived in Moscow yesterday for talks with Soviet leaders about arms limitation. In it she complained of the "inhuman destruction of our family", and called on Mr Vance to help to reunite her family.

Mrs McClellan, aged 38, met

her husband, a professor of Russian at the University of Virginia, when he was leading a tour group to the Soviet Union in 1972. They were allowed to marry on his return in 1974, but she has consistently been refused an exit visa on the grounds that her case was "complicated".

She was told by the KGB that she once worked for the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, a semi-official organization, but she denies that she ever had access to official secrets. In 1975 she resigned her job on being promised a visa, and has not worked regularly since.

She and her daughter Lena have carried on a vigorous campaign to be allowed out. The Americans have raised her case with the Soviet Government and Dr Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, once promised to take up the matter. Mr Vance is expected to raise her case and that of about 300 other people waiting to join families in America during his talks this week.

Mrs McClellan has increasingly identified herself with Jewish activists, though she is not Jewish. Last month she supported an appeal by 22 Jews on International Women's Day to the Queen to bid to Queen Juliana of the Netherlands to help them to emigrate.

Barre talks in Peking 'fruitful'

Mogadishu, April 20.—President Siad Barre, of Somalia, returned here yesterday from Peking after "fruitful" talks with Chinese leaders.

He told reporters his visit was "crowned with success". He had discussed the situation in the Horn of Africa, bilateral

relations and other international issues.

Observers believed he asked for economic and perhaps military help after the defeat of Somali forces in the Ogaden war last month. During the visit the two countries signed an economic and technical cooperation agreement.

Expulsion of between in viet spy case

Tehran, April 20.—Iran has expelled a citizen alleged to have given money to a former general who worked for Russians.

A man identified as Alimanov Ibrahimoglu, an employee of the Irano-Soviet port company, was told to leave the country last night.

Major Brigadier-General Ali Darakshani died of an attack on March 27 after passing information to Soviet officials.

85-year-old former general was once sentenced to life imprisonment for collaborating with Soviet insurgents who took part of Azerbaijan near the border in 1945. He was later pardoned by the Iranian government.

Itzer Prize Wrong man

York, April 20.—The Itzer Prize for sports photography awarded earlier this year to a United Press International photographer was given to the wrong man.

What a UPI spokesman called "an honest error" was taken by Mr John A. Freese, a freelance photographer, credited to Mr Jim Saker, picture editor in Indianapolis bureau. The photograph showed a hostage held at gunpoint.

Richard T. Bakersaid, the administrator, said: "It was an honest mistake, resulting in the large number of pictures that were taken that day."

Labour may recognize Polisario

By Howard Mortimer

Labour Party is likely to next week to recognize Polisario Front, fighting for independence against Morocco in the Western Sahara, as a genuine liberation movement, and to establish relations with it as it has with movements such as the Front for the Liberation of Namibia.

Resolution on this effect passed on Tuesday by the Labour Party's international committee will come before the full party conference meeting next Wednesday.

Mr Mustapha Sayed, deputy secretary-general of the Polisario Front, and Mr Ian Mikardo, secretary-general of the Labour Party, are expected to meet in London.

Mr Eric Heffer, chairman of the international committee of the Labour Party, said: "The main are understood to be favourably impressed by Mr Sayed, who during his visit to Britain also met

representatives of the Conservative and Liberal parties.

The decision would bring the Labour Party into line with the policies of other parties in the Socialist International, notably the French and Spanish Socialist Parties, both of which maintain relations with the Polisario.

The international committee also decided to ask Mrs Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, what her attitude would be to a request for direct humanitarian aid to the Polisario. (At present some British aid is channelled to Saharan refugees in Algeria through the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.)

The committee is also asking the Ministry of Defence about British policy on arms sales to Morocco. It appears that Britain's only exports are Land-Rovers, which though useful in desert warfare and indeed used by the Polisario themselves, are not classified as weapons.

The same meeting of the international committee considered a paper prepared by the party's international department which attempted to classify foreign communist parties with a view to deciding which parties the Labour Party should maintain relations with, and what kind of relations.

This arose from the controversy provoked by the attendance of delegates from several communist parties at last year's Labour Party Conference.

The international committee decided not to accept the paper, but asked for a more systematic study which would analyse the whole question of relations with communist parties, and why the Labour Party should have them.

The committee also decided to draw up a political statement defining the party's attitude to the Soviet Union and to communism in general. This is apparently felt desirable to make it clear that Soviet "socialism" has nothing in common with the kind of society the Labour Party aims to build in Britain. The move comes at a time when even communist parties in Western Europe have felt it necessary to make similar disclaimers.

OVERSEAS

Soviet-US accord on importance of task as talks begin

From Our Own Correspondent

Moscow, April 20

Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, began an intensive round of talks this morning with Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, on the new agreement in the strategic arms limitation talks (SALT). Both men described these as "exceptionally important" and hoped they would lead to positive results.

At a three-hour session, described by an American spokesman as "businesslike", the two sides tackled the remaining issues that are holding up a second SALT agreement.

The Soviet delegation included Marshal Ogarov, First Deputy Defence Minister and chief-of-staff, which could be taken as a sign that progress was being made on technical details.

Mr. Ogarov, a missile expert, is the first Soviet military official to take part in the SALT negotiations since Mr. Brezhnev and President Ford drafted the agreement in Vladivostok in 1974. His presence could also be seen as a desire by the Soviet leadership to reassure the Soviet military command.

At a luncheon, Mr. Vance and Mr. Gromyko exchanged friendly toasts. Mr. Gromyko ventured the hope that the talks would end positively, but said there would be more meetings to come. He noted that this was not Mr. Vance's first visit to Moscow. But said his responsibility on him and on the

Soviet side was now far greater

than in the past.

In reply Mr. Vance, who discarded his prepared speech, agreed that the meetings were of exceptional importance, adding: "We share the hopes and aspirations which Foreign Minister Gromyko has just indicated. Progress is not only of importance to our two nations, but we carry, I believe, the hopes of all the nations round the world."

He said that it was the first lap round the track, and he hoped the visit would prove successful before it ended.

In his prepared remarks, which he did not deliver when he heard that Mr. Gromyko was not making a substantial speech, he expressed the hope that the talks would end a difficult period in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union.

No one can deny that we are currently experiencing a period when the difficulties between us have received more attention than the interests which draw us together," he said in his prepared remarks. "I hope we can change this."

Informed sources say that at the preliminary outline of their positions the two sides did not

flinch from detailing points of disagreement. Mr. Vance criticized Soviet policy in Africa and Mr. Gromyko repeated recent Soviet accusations that the United States was inconsistent. The two sides resumed their talks after lunch, and they will continue tomorrow.

Route choice difficulties for Everest climbers

From Ronald Faux

Katmandu, April 20

An attempt to climb Everest without oxygen for the first time is under way. Reinhold Messner, aged 33, from Italy, and Peter Habeler, aged 35, from Austria, are believed to be above the Western Cwm of Everest as the Austrian expedition supporting them secures the South Col route up the mountain.

The aftermath of severe weather during winter has already forced the two climbers to modify their plans. The ridge of rock running from the Western Cwm to the south summit of the mountain—which Signor Messner hoped would provide a swift and direct route to the top—is reported to be encased in a thick coat of ice, and impossible to climb.

The route up the south-west face is also believed to be out of condition because extremely strong winds have scuffed away the heavy fall of winter snow from the mountain face.

The remaining choice is the South Col route first climbed 25 years ago by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay. Although this is technically less difficult, it is a much longer route than the unclimbed ridge or the direct climb on the south-west face.

The South Col ascent would also pose a difficult question. The Austrian climbers securing the fixed ropes and cutting steps for the supply line are using oxygen equipment. For Signor Messner and Herr Habeler to climb the mountain without this aid would raise doubts among the purists about the validity of their achievement.

The alternative would be for the two men to forge the route on the Lhotse face and to establish a base camp at a formidable task. Signor Messner calculated that once they had climbed above the



Lord Hunt and Professor Noel Odell examine a model of Everest at the launching of the £250,000 appeal by the Mount Everest Foundation.

Western Cwm they would have three days to reach the top and return. The physical deterioration to be expected at such altitude would be too great to allow them any longer.

A report from the pilot of an aircraft which flew into the Western Cwm earlier this week said the climbers had established three camps on the steeply crevassed floor of the Cwm and were starting to climb the Lhotse face.

Bad weather since had probably slowed down the attempt but the expedition is on schedule for a summit attempt—without or without oxygen—in late April or early May.

£250,000 appeal: Lord Hunt, the leader of the first expedition to reach the summit of Everest, launched a £250,000 appeal in London to boost the funds of the Mount Everest Foundation.

Over the foundation has helped to finance nearly 500 mountaineering expeditions at a cost of almost £250,000.

Lord Hunt said: "We need the money to ensure that people can go out in the near future and in the further future with the help, encouragement and endorsement of the foundation."

At the launch of the appeal, generations of Everest climbers were on hand—from Professor Noel Odell, who was on the mountain in 1924, to Charles Clarke, one of the members of the successful Bonington team of 1975.

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FBI men hit the street in clean-cut protest

From David Cross

Washington, April 20

Several hundred agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) gathered outside a federal court building here today to show their support for three of their former bosses who are accused of using illegal surveillance methods to capture radical fugitives.

The agents, who refrained from carrying protest signs so as not to give the "unofficial business-suited image, applauded loudly as each of the three defendants entered the building separately.

They were released without bail and ordered to return to court on May 12 for a pretrial hearing. The three men were indicted by the Justice Department 10 days ago on charges of conspiring to violate the civil rights of friends and associates of suspected members of the Weathermen extremist group in 1972 and 1973.

The Justice Department announced that it was dropping its case against another more junior member of the agency, Mr. John Kearney, who was indicted on similar charges.

Today's arraignment hearing was very brief. When each defendant was asked by Judge William Bryant of the United States District Court how he pleaded, the replies were "not guilty" in firm voice. They were then released without bail and ordered to return to court on May 12 for a pretrial hearing.

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New Soviet moves on arms curbs possible

From Patricia Clough

Bonn, April 20

The Soviet Union appears to be preparing to make fresh moves on disarmament and arms control, according to Herr Egon Bahr, the Social Democratic Party manager, who returned here last night after a visit to Moscow.

Herr Bahr told journalists he received the impression from Soviet leaders that they were about to try and give fresh impetus to efforts for East-West détente. "There is every sign that the Soviet Union is preparing new initiatives on disarmament," he said.

He said it was significant that Mr. Boris Ponomarev, a secretary of the Central Committee, will speak on the Soviet disarmament and arms control policy at the disarmament conference of the Socialist International in Helsinki next week. Officials here expect, however, that any

specific proposals would be made at the United Nations disarmament conference in New York at the end of May.

Herr Bahr rejected suggestions that the issue of the neutron bomb would be discussed during President Brezhnev's visit to West Germany between May 4 and 6. West Germany has no neutron weapons and did not intend to produce any. "Our subject is arms control," he said.

Herr Bahr's visit to Moscow was on behalf of Herr Willy Brandt, the former Chancellor and his International North-South Development Commission.

The Soviet leaders, he said, appeared prepared to exchange ideas with the commission and with the Swedish general secretary, will go to Moscow in the summer for talks with the Soviet Institute for World Economy.

Lebanese MPs search for national understanding

From David Watts

Beirut, April 20

Lebanese parliamentarians met today to lay the ground-work for the selection of a new government.

The atmosphere of a four-hour meeting in the Parliament building was relaxed and there was obvious determination to try and establish a national understanding which must precede the arrival of any new government if it is to have a chance of functioning.

Though the old divisions about the priorities in the multiplicity of problems facing the country remain, the new element is a sense of urgency which the resignation of the Government of Mr. Salim al-Hoss has given to all sides.

Some Beirut newspapers indicated today that among the reasons for the decision of President Elias Sarkis to force a show-down with the Christian right were indications from the intelligence services that the city was about to be hit by a fresh outbreak of factional fighting.

Mr. Salim al-Hoss, a former Prime Minister, said after today's meeting that there was a determination among all of the factions to try and come together and cooperate. "We did not discuss the formation of a government, what's real important is that this is the first time in years that we've come together and discussed our problems with an open heart."

Mr. Walid Jumblatt, the left leader, however, pointed out the differing priorities which still divide the country, insisting that the first item on the national agenda must be the withdrawal of the Israelis from the south of the country.

Mr. Camille Chamoun, the Phalangist leader, said the Israeli withdrawal was a foregone conclusion and reassured his demand for the disarming of the Palestinians in Lebanon, while Mr. Pierre Gemayel, the leader of the National Liberal Party who leads the largest right-wing militia in the country, warned that failure to reach a national entente would result in the partition of the country.

Today's informal gathering is to be resumed tomorrow.

Move to arrange London meeting on Namibia

By Derry Hogue

Britain and the United States are trying to arrange at short notice a meeting of the foreign ministers of the five Western powers involved in negotiations on the independence of South-West Africa (Namibia) on the eve of a special United Nations General Assembly session on the territory.

The invitations were sent out to the foreign ministers of the five Western powers involved in negotiations on the independence of South-West Africa (Namibia) on the eve of a special United Nations General Assembly session on the territory.

It is hoped they will be able to gather in London on Sunday and take advantage of a stop-over by Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, on his way back from Moscow to Washington.

It is planned that the meeting will go ahead even if not all the foreign ministers are able to attend. It will be designed to be an up-to-date briefing for the ministers on the recent visit of Mr. Vance and Dr. David Owen, the Foreign Secretary to Africa, where they had talks with R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, and Mr. Sam Nujoma, the leader of the Angola-based Swapo and guerilla group which is at the forefront of the demands for Namibian independence.

South Africa, which administers the territory, on Wednesday gave Judge M. T. Snyman, the Administrator-General of Namibia, emergency dictatorial powers of arrest and detention to maintain law and order during independence negotiations.

Both Dr. Owen and Mr. Vance feel the powers might be justified, especially after the assassination on Easter Monday of Chief Clessens Kapuuno, one of the most prominent Namibians involved in the moves to independence.

Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes: "A South African detained for allegedly passing military secrets to Swapo, who was barred from marrying his British friend by proxy, is to fly to Britain tomorrow."

Mr. Peter Manning, a white official of Swapo in Windhoek, the capital of South-West Africa, walked out of the Windhoek Supreme Court today free after four months' detention.

Charges brought against him under the Official Secrets Act and the Terrorism Act were dropped. He was accused of having helped suspected terrorists and provided maps showing South African military installations.

World bodies aid island group hit by cholera

Male, Maldives, April 20

More than 180 people have died in outbreaks of cholera and gastro-enteritis in this Indian Ocean archipelago, official sources said today.

Another 117 cases of cholera have been confirmed and more than 750 people are suffering from enteritis. Unesco, the World Health Organization and the Sri Lanka government have sent medical teams to help.

The national stadium in Male, capital of this independent island group of 220 inhabited islands about 400 miles south-west of Sri Lanka, has been converted into a mass vaccination centre.

Reuter.

Ugandan general injured in road accident

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, April 20

General Mustafa Adrisi, the Ugandan Vice-President, has been flown to Libya for medical treatment after being injured in a road accident 20 miles from Kampala, according to Uganda Radio.

Travelers from Kampala say that the accident involving General Adrisi's car and another car drew a large crowd of local people and the general's bodyguard opened fire on them. The bodyguard killed several persons.

Uganda Radio said that the driver of the second car had died from his injuries.

Reuter.

Cento of 'immense value' to Britain Dr Owen says

The Central Treaty Organisation (Cento) had proved of "immense value" to Britain, Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday.

Dr Owen was speaking at the end of the twenty-fifth session of Cento's ministerial council. He rejected a suggestion that the organization was outdated as the Baghdad Pact in 1955 and whose members now include Britain, the United States, Iran, Turkey and Pakistan—had outlived its usefulness.

Among its achievements he listed the maintenance of stability in parts of central Asia, the prevention of too sharp a deterioration in American-Turkish relations and its role in stopping Pakistan "splitting further apart" from the West.

There was also no doubt that without Cento Britain would not have achieved its position as a major arms supplier to Iran. "That would have certainly very much affected our own prosperity," Dr Owen commented.

Cento did not maintain a

great bureaucracy and made no heavy demand on the Government. There was a tendency to underestimate it.

The Foreign Secretary described the two-day session of ministers as very successful, adding that Cento was now stronger than it had been for some time.

By general agreement, the new secretary-general of the organization, said that, despite recent statements by General Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan had no intention of leaving Cento. The question had not been discussed at the meeting, he said. Nor, Dr Owen added, had the death sentence passed on Mr. Bhutto, Pakistan's former Prime Minister.

Among the points covered in the final communiqué was the decision for a Middle East solution that "recognizes the legitimate rights" of the Palestinians and the restoration of the Lebanese Government's authority in southern Lebanon, in line with United Nations resolutions.

The council meeting of the organization will be held in Washington next April.

Israel says cluster bombs in invasion were mistake

Tel Aviv, April 21—Mr. Ezer

Weizman, the Israeli Defence Minister, said in an interview today that the use of American-made cluster bombs by the Israeli Air Force during the invasion of Southern Lebanon last month was a mistake.

He said that he had not been informed of American limitations on their use, to which Israel had agreed when the bombs were purchased.

The United States protested at the use of the bomb because

it was not to be used as an offensive weapon. The cluster bomb contains hundreds of napalm-filled anti-personnel bombs which are discharged in mid-air.

The Lebanese charged that the bombs caused heavy casualties when dropped on civilian centres.

Mr. Weizman said that he regretted the loss of civilian lives, but Southern Lebanon was for years a refuge for Palestinian guerrillas.—Reuter.

Embassy in Moscow may move

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, April 20

When the controversy over the new Soviet Embassy building in London is settled, the British Embassy in Moscow will be faced with a hard choice: should it remain in its magnificent though impractical building or should it move to less historic new quarters?

By general agreement, the British Embassy here has the finest view in Moscow. Overlooking the golden domes of the Kremlin on the other side of the river it is a building of considerable elegance which Britain has maintained with meticulous care.

For years the Russians have been trying to persuade the British to move. The British have been talking rather half-heartedly about a new site. Nothing can be settled until the outcome of the London negotiations is known.

The embassy occupies a mansion built by a Mr. Kharitonov, a rich sugar merchant. When the capital was moved to Moscow after the 1917 Revolution, the house became a reception centre for the Soviet Foreign Ministry. It was leased to Britain in 1933.

The interior is impressive: carved panelling lines the hallway, a richly carved staircase leads to a suite of rooms with brocade, gilt ceilings, chandeliers, ornate carved wooden mantelpieces and inlaid parquet floors. Russians enter-

The present British Embassy: elegant, magnificent, but impractical.

tain there are invariably impressed.

As an embassy it is less practical. The office is the wrong shape, the electrical circuit is overloaded, alterations are difficult without spoiling the architecture and the upkeep is expensive. Sections of the embassy are scattered in outbuildings elsewhere in Moscow.

Stalin tried to evict Britain in 1952, reportedly in anger at seeing the Union Jack from his window each day. The embassy was given three months to leave and plans were made to knock the building down and create a park. But nothing came of this.

Serious negotiations on the embassy's future began again in 1964. The Russians now apparently want to turn the mansion into a museum of bourgeois life.

PARLIAMENT, April 20, 1978

Colonel named during calls for debate on freedom of press

House of Commons
During questions to Mr. Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, after he had announced next week's business.
Mrs. Josephine Richardson (Barking, Lab.) asked—Will he try to find time for a debate on press freedom in view of the restriction of press freedom in connection with the case of Colonel Johnstone, otherwise known as Colonel B?
Mr. Foot—It is not possible to find time for a debate on press freedom in view of the restriction of press freedom in connection with the case of Colonel Johnstone, otherwise known as Colonel B.
Mr. Foot—It is not possible to find time for a debate on press freedom in view of the restriction of press freedom in connection with the case of Colonel Johnstone, otherwise known as Colonel B.

Speaker to rule on DPP memo to editors

Mr. Jeffrey Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab.), raising a point of order at 10 pm sought the Speaker's ruling on the memorandum sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions by the editors of national newspapers regarding disclosure of the identity of Colonel B.
Mr. Rooker said—This memorandum is in the face of all that we thought this House stood for, in the sense that our proceedings are published in full and without prejudice to the public outside the media.
He said the memorandum stated: "The legality of revealing the identity of Colonel B, a witness in the prosecution of the late Lord and Lady C, is the subject matter of pending proceedings for contempt of court before the Division Court of the High Court of Justice. It is not acceptable that the naming of the colonel on the floor of the House of Commons, that the publication of his name would be a contempt of court, even if it was part of a report of the proceedings of the House."

Advice to Tories on attitude to unions

If it was true that the Conservative Party document about trade unions took the view that there should be no confrontation with the unions, it was high time the Tories revised their whole approach to them, Mr. Callaghan, the Prime Minister, said during questions.
Mr. Bryan Gould (Southampton, Lab.) asked—Will he point out to the Tories that the one good feature of the secret Tory report on confrontation with the unions is that it is not a confrontation with the unions, it is a confrontation with the Tories?
Mr. Callaghan—It is a confrontation with the Tories, it is a confrontation with the Tories, it is a confrontation with the Tories.

Community blamed

Uncertainty among British potato producers was entirely due to the European Community, Mr. Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, said during questions.
Mr. Bishop—The uncertainty among British potato producers was entirely due to the European Community, Mr. Edward Bishop, Minister of State for Agriculture, said during questions.

Statement next week on Services pay

A statement on armed forces' pay would be made next week, the Prime Minister said at question time.
Mr. Winston Churchill, an Opposition spokesman on defence (Stratford, Con.), said—The pay of the armed forces has now fallen more than 30 per cent behind average industrial earnings since April 1975.
Mr. Joseph Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab.)—It is a lousy shop steward, it is a lousy shop steward, it is a lousy shop steward.

PM says Tories made Wales Bill a shambles

The Conservative Party, which was opposed to devolution, had voted that the Wales Bill should come into force immediately, Royal Assent was passed without a referendum, the Prime Minister said during questions.
Mr. Foot—The Wales Bill, which was opposed to devolution, had voted that the Wales Bill should come into force immediately, Royal Assent was passed without a referendum, the Prime Minister said during questions.

Parliamentary printing

Mr. Michael Foot, Lord President of the Council, said that the initiative taken by the House of Commons to publish the proceedings of the House of Commons in full and without prejudice to the public outside the media was a breach of privilege of the House.
Mr. Foot—The initiative taken by the House of Commons to publish the proceedings of the House of Commons in full and without prejudice to the public outside the media was a breach of privilege of the House.

Rear fog lamps

Mr. John Horan, Under Secretary for Transport, in a written reply said—The Secretary of State for Transport proposes to make regulations on the fitting of rear fog lamps on motor vehicles.

Britain needs a higher level of productivity

Britain needed a higher level of productivity if there was to be a high wage economy, the Prime Minister said during questions.
Mr. Callaghan—Britain needed a higher level of productivity if there was to be a high wage economy, the Prime Minister said during questions.

Tories contemplate higher prescription charges as NHS needs every penny

Morale in the National Health Service was at a low ebb and it was not helped by Government ministers going around the country trying to give the impression that as well as Mr. Patrick Jenkin, chief Opposition spokesman on social services, said in opening a debate on the NHS.
Mr. Jenkin (Redbridge, Wanstead and Woodford, Con.) said that slaking morale, lengthening waiting lists and falling standards were exacerbated by industrial disruption, staff shortages and building work which was years late.
The majority of staff in hospitals worked conscientiously, without interruption and with devoted care for the patients. The rash of deaths was evidence of a deeper malaise.

Baking employers agree to five-day working week

Employers in the baking industry were prepared to agree to a five-day working week, Mr. John Sifton, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during questions.
Mr. Sifton—Employers in the baking industry were prepared to agree to a five-day working week, Mr. John Sifton, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during questions.

No decision yet on aircraft

During questions to the Prime Minister, Mr. Terence Walker (Kingswood, Lab.) asked Mr. Callaghan to discuss with the TUC the matter of the proposed British Airways fleet of Concorde aircraft.

Next week's business

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be Bill and Companies Bill, second reading.
Monday: Nuclear Safeguards and Electricity (Finance) Bill, second reading.
Tuesday: Completion of committee stage of Wales Bill.
Wednesday: Remaining stages of the Home Purchase Assistance and Housing Corporation Guarantee Bill.

Code of practice sought to define parameters of industrial action

Mr. David Ennals, Secretary of State for Social Services (Northwich, Cheshire, Lab.), said that the Government was seeking to define the parameters of industrial action in the NHS.
Mr. Ennals—The Government was seeking to define the parameters of industrial action in the NHS.

Talks on advertising of drinks

Mr. Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab.) asked how the Government intended to deal with the advertising of drinks.
Mr. Ashley—The Government intended to deal with the advertising of drinks.

EEC moving towards Britain's position

The atmosphere inside the Commission and the council of Ministers was beginning to move towards the position advocated by Britain on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, Mr. John Gummer, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said during questions.
Mr. Gummer—The atmosphere inside the Commission and the council of Ministers was beginning to move towards the position advocated by Britain on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy.

Meeting the media head on

Mr Ray Blanton, the combat-hardened Governor of Tennessee, has just won the right to become the first holder of that office to run for a second four-year term. The State's voters, by a percentage margin of 57 to 43, approved a Constitutional amendment which would allow its governor, like American Presidents, two successive terms of office.

Mr Blanton regards this as a personal victory, and especially a vindication of the abrasive line he has taken with critical journalists—the characteristic for which he is best known. He is quite unsurprised that those same journalists do not interpret the referendum result in the same way.

They point out that other potential candidates also recommend passage of the amendment. Mr Blanton responds that the press built up the referendum in advance as a test of the acceptability of his administration, saying that if the amendment was defeated it would be because voters did not want him to run again. That they are now trying to reverse that judgment he regards as typical of the way they have treated him since he took office three years ago.

In January he achieved national fame by refusing to answer questions from inquiring reporters which he regarded as "negative". In that category he placed any queries about his personal life and about allegations that he had been engaged in unnecessary foreign travel, under the guise of trade missions, at the State's expense.

When I spoke to him recently in Washington Mr Blanton said: "The animosity with the press is largely my fault because they are a thin-skinned bunch of people and I criticize them. They think they can dish it out and it's acceptable but they can't take it themselves."

"They still have this Watergate phobia that all public officials are suspect. They believe the more derogatory things they write about public officials the more notoriety they will get."

He believes that Mr Bert Lance ("one of the best talents Mr Carter could have chosen") was hounded unjustly from office by the media and that there is an attempt to do the same to Mr Hamilton Jordan.

He gets twice as many letters supporting his stand against the press than letters opposing it. He adds that since he made his pronouncement in January his press conferences have been burdened with fewer questions than he would place in the negative category, though he still gets several he regards as "dumb".

"The press now respect my position" he said. "It dawned on them that I have a right to an opinion, too."

Mr Blanton's troubles with the media began as soon as he took office, when it was revealed that he and members of his staff were being investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Justice Department. He says that this was because he was on President Nixon's

"enemies list". The investigations continue but nobody has been charged.

The most recent phase of criticism began last year when it was revealed that a convicted murderer, out of jail on "trustee" status, had been working for two years for the Governor as a photographer. What is more, he was the son of Mr Blanton's chief of patronage.

The Governor explains that many members of his staff are trustee prisoners, including the people who prepare the food at his residence. Most are murderers.

"We request murderers for the residence because they don't normally steal and they make better employees," he said. "There is very little recidivism in murder cases."

Mr Blanton believes that the journalists made a fuss about this because they were peeved at having worked alongside the convict for two years without realizing who he was. "In order to cover up their own stupidity they made a big issue out of it," he maintains.

The governor then compounded the offence by going on television to declare that he intended to relieve the murderer. In spite of the view of a Commission of Inquiry that he should not be freed yet, Mr Blanton is still determined to sign the reprieve before he leaves office.

Mr Blanton has not yet announced whether he will take the opportunity given him by last month's referendum and run for a second term. If he does so, and if he wins, he will have inflicted the first major defeat of the massed forces of the media since their famous victory of Watergate.

Michael Leapman



Mr Ray Blanton

break with Moscow.

Western diplomats seem convinced that the rapprochement with Greece mainly reflects Tirana's concern over possible developments in the Balkans after President Tito goes from the scene. There are, in fact, fears that Yugoslavia's eventual return to a Soviet orbit would deprive Albania's present leaders of the immunity afforded by the existence of a buffer state between Moscow and their own insulting defiance to it.

Closer relations with Greece would give Albania a channel to keep informed of Balkan developments, but also an enhanced sense of security in the south, in case of pressures building up elsewhere. The country itself is certainly bracing itself for inch-by-inch territorial defence and this is evident to any visitor both from the profusion of fortified positions in the countryside and from the martial spirit that is fostered among the people.

The Greek side has readily responded to the Albanian overtures, but efforts to speed up the process through concrete proposals for cooperation have stumbled on extreme reserve and admonitions for less haste. Against this background of Albanian reserve and circumspection as well as the natural sensitivity to Greek irredentism, the official permission to the Greek party to visit the minority in the district of Gjirokastra was, to say the least, surprising.

But even more remarkable is the fact that a few days earlier the Albanian leader Enver Hoxha himself toured the same area and acknowledged publicly for the first time the Greek minority's right to preserve its mother tongue and its cultural heritage.

Of course when the Albanians speak now of a Greek minority they refer to two clusters of villages north of the border in the Dropolis and Butrinton regions, with a total population of 20,000. Before the last war the Greek population in Albania was estimated to be one-tenth of the country's 2,700,000 inhabitants.

Nevertheless, Mr Hoxha's was an extraordinary performance considering not only that Greek claims on northern Epirus had been based on the presence of the minority there, but also that in 1959 Greece was used as a springboard for a little-publicized Western operation to dislodge the Hoxha regime.

Mario Modiano

was designed to ensure that Tunisians were left in no doubt of the regime's intention of tightening its grip on the country and asserting its role as custodian of law and order. Ministers and officials in Tunis are predictably given to expressing confidence that stability has returned. They make no secret of their disdain and contempt for those who support the ideal of a more democratic form of socialism.

While Achour and his colleagues await trial and others involved in the disturbances are brought before the courts, the UGTT executive has been purged and its officials can be expected to toe the party line. The opposition's newspaper, which has been highly successful in its short life, is still being published although its readers and distributors are subject to continued harassment by the authorities.

M Nouria claims that the DSP is stronger than at any time in its history and when asked about the prospects of the Government approving the establishment of an organized opposition party, explains: "It is not the responsibility of government to prompt people to set up new parties—to do so would be political masochism."

The Government is equally dismissive about the allegations of torture and mistreatment of detainees made, inter alia, by Amnesty International. "Who are they to doubt the word of the State—are they a super power?" M Nouria replied when asked about the organization's report on Tunisia.

Another facet of the Government's consolidation of its position since January is the proposal to establish a Service Civil—a civilian army—which will be used to undertake projects identified as priority items in the country's latest development plan. Young men aged between 18 and 30 will be drafted into this new force. Men from the rural areas who have been attracted to the cities in search of work are to be dispatched to camps in or near their home towns. The legislation has been discussed for some two years but its introduction has clearly been accelerated by the events of January 26. The new army will not only remove a large proportion of the people presently unemployed, but it will also remove the potential seedcorn of further political trouble.

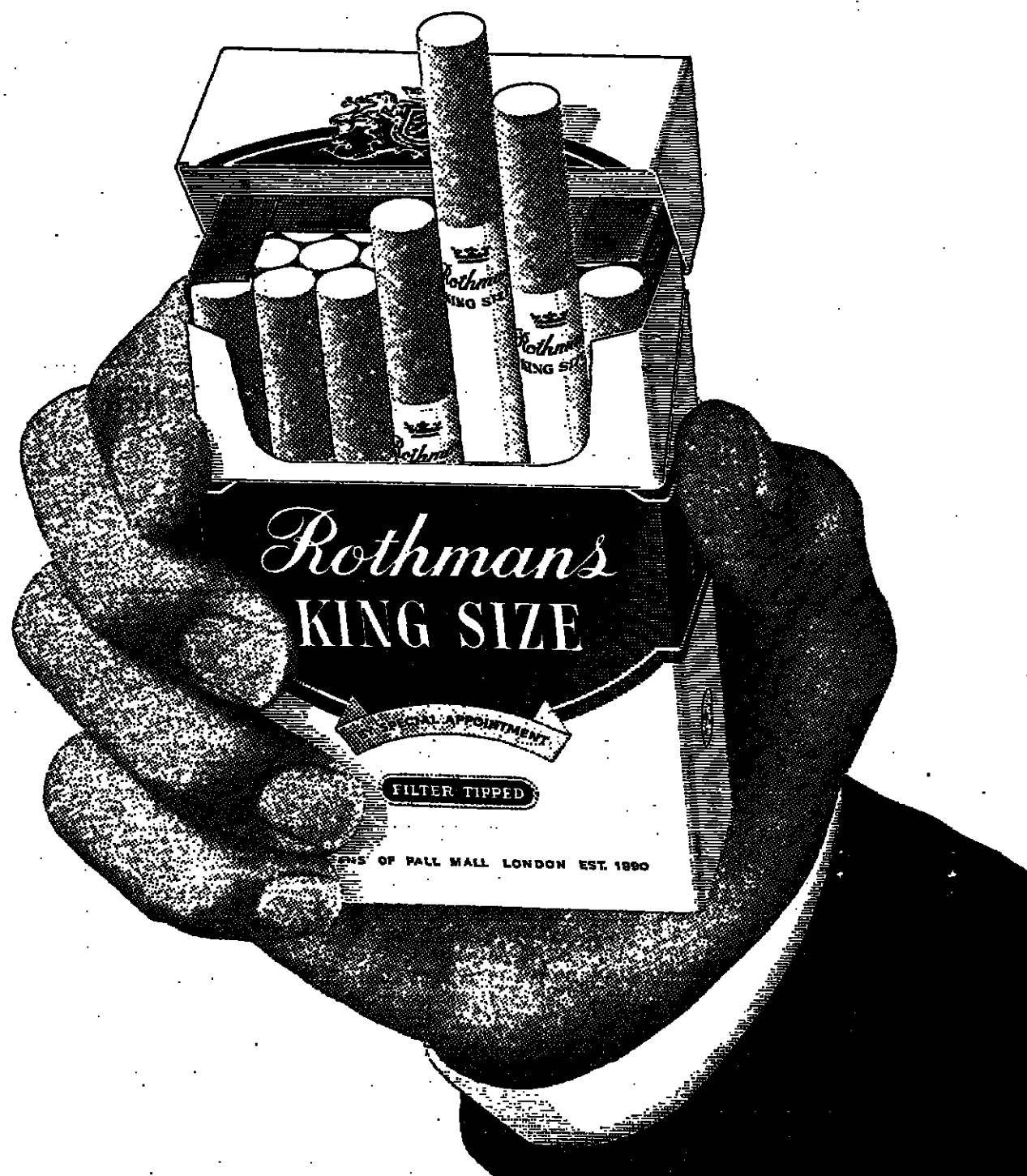
M Mestiri saw the move as a further demonstration of the Government's "campaign of hatred" against the opposition. "If this law is passed and practised it will create a very grave situation in Tunisia," he warned.

But the Government is clearly determined to go ahead with the legislation, convinced that it has reestablished its position by its rooting out of those who have shown themselves to be disillusioned by the policies of the past. That battle may have been won. But the war, M Mestiri insists, will go on.

Peter Hill

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a Special Report

Yugoslavia



President Tito being greeted by Mr James Callaghan in London last month. In less than a year the Yugoslav leader has visited all the main capitals in an effort to secure his country's senior position among non-aligned nations. The Yugoslavs have no illusions about Soviet intentions when he leaves the scene.

Friend of major powers, President vows to keep country secure

Months 30 years ago, when Marshal Tito was born, the world was a different place. He has just completed a remarkable tour which took him to Moscow—where he received a warm welcome—and to Peking, where the welcome was even more warm. The tour began last summer and ended in Washington last month with a new and even more vigorous reaffirmation of American support.

Thus, Yugoslavia joined the small circle of countries whose relations with all three major powers are good. This in itself represents an extraordinary success for Yugoslav diplomacy as it opens up new possibilities in the delicate balancing act, providing additional safeguards for the future as the non-aligned

movement. It took a long time and enormous effort to achieve this.

For, in spite of verbal declarations and solemnly signed documents whereby Stalin's heirs have undertaken to respect Yugoslavia's independence, the Yugoslavs have no illusions. Hence the Marshal's repeated vows to do everything in his power to render Yugoslavia safe and secure before he leaves the scene. Hence his tireless effort to maintain Yugoslavia's leading position within the non-aligned movement. Hence his continuing voyages which, within less than a year, took him to all the major capitals, including Paris and London.

Underlying all talk and speculation about the future of Yugoslavia is the assumption that Soviet aspirations

tended to push the non-aligned world in ways which were not only harmful to American global interests but outright offensive. With the arrival of President Carter's Administration the erosion has not only been halted but relations seem to have been put on a more solid basis. Both sides agree that they have now reached their zenith.

Sweet music
to the
nation's ears

Evidence of this is the messages exchanged between the two presidents over the past 10 months. President Carter's pledge to support Yugoslavia's unity as well as its independence was sweet music to Yugoslav ears, and last but not least a remarkable increase of American investment in Yugoslav industry as well as of trade in general. This coupled with the sale of arms should help to sustain the balance at a time when, because of Yugoslavia's problems with the EEC and its soaring trade deficit with the West, economically at least, it has been taking earplugs.

Insurance policy
against
Soviet adventures

Nevertheless, this did not deter Mr. Brezhnev from trying again when President Tito visited Moscow last summer. On this occasion, however, the Marshal cut the conversation short. But the very fact that the Russians keep raising such demands shows that they are determined to continue pressure. This is why President Tito's visits to Peking, where not many years ago he was still denounced as the renegade and arch enemy, and Washington were of utmost importance to the Yugoslavs. They were part of an insurance policy against Soviet adventures.

There has, in fact, been no fundamental change in Yugoslav-American relations ever since Washington decided it was worth backing communist Yugoslavia in its bitter conflict with Moscow. There were, however, periods when Washington felt that Belgrade had veered too close to Moscow, or was too readily lining up with the Soviet Union in foreign affairs.

More recently, there were strains because in American eyes, Yugoslav policy

by Dessa Trevisan

Can a plural democracy work in Yugoslavia? The question crops up every time the regime reaches a point at which a new definition of the future is required. Another question is whether Yugoslavia can hold itself together after President Tito. The two questions are hypothetical but interrelated.

Yugoslavia is a multi-national country and one where the northern nations are more developed than the southern ones. It is a country in which a great deal of power has devolved on six constituent republics and two autonomous regions. It is run by a single party, although the system is more complex than that expression would suggest.

So, if critics, as well as supporters of Titoism have serious doubts whether a multi-party system could work, it is mainly because they all fear it would quickly degenerate into a contest of rival national, rather than alternative nationwide, policies. The Yugoslavs agree what the consequences might well be for the country apart.

Having discarded a pluralistic system the moment they came into power, and having dismantled the Soviet model soon after that, the Yugoslavs have invented their own system which differs as much from that of the East as it does from that of the West. Basically, it is a one party system, but it operates in a pluralistic society, coping with conflicting interests and, unlike other communist countries, recognizing their existence.

In theory, the party does not rule in Yugoslavia, nor is it a force above society. It is

supposed to guide and influence and to act as a common denominator of what, in Yugoslav political jargon, is known as self-managing interest groups.

In fact, the Communist Party, or League of Communists—as it was renamed 25 years ago—runs Yugoslavia unchallenged and controls all strata of society. Its membership has grown to nearly 1,700,000. Some 30 per cent of its members are under the age of 27, and it shows no signs of withering away.

The question for Yugoslavia is not whether a multi-party system could work but how to do away with the political monopoly of a single party while maintaining central authority intact.

Mr. Edvard Kardelj, Yugoslavia's number two man and chief theoretician of Yugoslavia's self-managing socialism, has outlined his ideas on what he calls "pluralism of interests of self-managing communities integrated in the delegates system". The phrase has already become a Yugoslav political jargon, although no two means in practice.

There is widespread confusion over the role the party would play, and that again brings to the fore the old dilemma of fitting the still a Leninist-type party into Yugoslavia's thriving pluralistic society. Mr. Kardelj admitted that the society has outgrown its political system. The time has come for democratization of party life.

The party congress is scheduled for June and many ideas, some of them bold, have been floated. A new definition of democratic centralism promises more scope for dissenting groups

and individual members to defend their point of view against majority decisions. This would certainly open the door to real debate but, as it will be strictly confined to the inner party circle, it seems unlikely that ordinary Yugoslavs will read about it in their press. The Yugoslavs are not yet ready to carry democratizing reforms further than that, so they have again stopped half way.

A reorganization designed to achieve greater mobility and efficiency from top to bottom is also intended to secure more efficient control over enforcement of decisions. The praesidium is to be cut down to only 24 members, each of whom has been a central figure of long standing. The trend is, like Mr. Stane Dolanc said, to spread the network of party cells, however small, to every village and school. The party may not rule, but it is determined to make sure that its influence remains unchallenged.

In a way, this is understandable. For, as Yugoslavia grows more complex so do the tasks of running it as well as of running the party.

The crisis of the early 1970s has been weathered. Yugoslavia gives the impression of being a stable and prosperous country with consumerism thriving and the shops bulging with goods.

Yugoslav consumers, like their country, go on spending more than they earn yet always manage to keep ahead of their creditors.

With President Tito approaching 86, the Yugoslavs are on guard against unrested novelty that might disrupt the political calm and quiet. They feel the need to push democratization further but want to retain the benefits of controlling it. All early 1970s it is something.

First steps to reconcile dissent with central control

gorenje

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The history and development of the extensive GORENJE organization is in the main well-known: expanding from very modest beginnings, GORENJE has become Yugoslavia's biggest manufacturer of household appliances, active not only on the whole of the Yugoslav market, but also in the industrialized countries of Europe and the world in general—markets demanding high standards and involving sharp competition. GORENJE has taken part in numerous industrial integration projects and has links with numerous Yugoslav manufacturing and trading organizations cooperating in an "Everything for the Home" programme. GORENJE cooperates with large companies in Western Countries.

PRODUCTION PROGRAMME

The adoption of the present programme — "Everything for the Home" — has made GORENJE evolve from a manufacturer of domestic appliances into a specialized supplier of complete household equipment—ranging from everyday appliances to complete building projects. This programme, known as "DOM", embraces five basic parts which have been unified into a composite unit: household appliances, power generating equipment, professional and amateur electronic equipment, building equipment, and the "green programme" for farmers. GORENJE'S programme as a whole has been conceived as a chain linking all the technological components of the products serving the new material to the end product. This has encouraged many manufacturing and trading organizations and banks to invest in the realization of GORENJE'S ambitious programme, all the more because the individual programmes which go to make up the whole are not restricted to one factory or group of factories, but involve all ten organizations operating under the GORENJE name, providing the programme with essential technical interconnections and permit-

ting flexible and prompt reaction to changes in the market situation. An especially interesting part of the programme is the prefabricated building system, new to Yugoslavia. It actually amounts to the industrial manufacture of buildings: the individual "cells" are fitted with all the necessary equipment in the factory and are simply assembled on the building site. At present, the GORENJE programme includes 2.40 by 10.60 by 3.20-metre cells weighing 14 to 19 tons, designed for use in "manufacturing" not only residential buildings, but schools, public buildings, kindergartens, hospitals, hotels, office buildings, industrial buildings, military facilities, etc. The value of this system is illustrated by the fact that the assembly of 25 cells takes only one day and complete finalization only takes one week. Moreover, the system permits the subsequent addition of other elements or adaptation to the customer's specific requirements. All ten manufacturing organizations associated in the GORENJE system are involved in the "Everything for the Home" programme.

NEW PRODUCTS

In addition to the established range, GORENJE is preparing to manufacture equipment for environmental protection, for which there is increasing demand. This will include equipment to control air pollution, to treat effluents and to recycle waste materials.

EXPORTS

For some years, GORENJE has been one of Yugoslavia's biggest exporters and the biggest absolutely in the household sector. It is worth noting that the bulk of the exports go to Western countries: West Germany, Austria, France, Belgium, Sweden, Great Britain, USA and Australia. There are also exports to various Asian, African and Comoran countries.

COOPERATION WITH FOREIGN COMPANIES

GORENJE maintains business and co-operation relations with a sizeable number of foreign companies including Kärcher, Krupp, Danfoss, Rapid, Jacuzzi, Fiem. Successful cooperation has also been established with firms in Poland, Romania, Hungary, the USSR and developing countries, as well as Greece and Denmark.

WORLD-WIDE NETWORK OF BRANCH OFFICES

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View of part of Gorenje factory, Velenje, set in idyllic countryside

PRIVREDNA BANKA ZAGREB



Yugoslavia and S.R. Croatia have embarked on a new Five Year Plan which will bring a sharp upsurge in industrial and agricultural production, trade and investments.

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PRIVREDNA BANKA ZAGREB

D.T.

... ..

Belgrade determined to negotiate better terms with EEC

by Ristic

next weeks and Yugoslav trade officials will be locked in negotiations with the EEC to offer a new cooperation agreement.

face of it the should have few reaching agree- se days without a European polit- ing yet another of support for the tion. The message is the same: an and thriving is crucial for Europe. makes 1978 dif- any other year Yugoslav trade are not going to go hear the same words and pick up extra morsels of ing by the mood de, this time they to prove conclus- the heart of the probably no Yugoslav off- quently where it be substantial— the Community won its significantly, long- movements for Yugoslav exports. Officials are quick to point out the 1976 joint of EEC support seen few improve-

goslave are making push for improve- access to EEC the same time as expressed as Tito approaches sixth birthday. This belief that plenty of reasons nt of the political it justify them air way. The feel- Belgrade is that if the barriers to orts is long over-

if we do not get ents we will be look increasingly markets", an off- Belgrade.

y there is an ele- huff in such state- at Yugoslavia has istently discrim- i favour of goods EEC at the of the United years, boosting the already Japan. Many of large ranks of the unem- pl imports now from Western mld be purchased two other mar- eally after the

clearly improved relations with the United States since President Tito's visit last month and step up in the Yugoslav market as de- tations scour the country looking for something to buy to offset their pur- chases.

Undoubtedly the biggest determining factor in the new mood in Belgrade is the size of the deficit with the EEC. Last year the debt with the EEC reached \$2,400m. Yugoslavia was able to pay for only 36 per cent of its imports from the Community with exports.

The EEC is now Belgrade's most important trade partner, providing close to 40 per cent of its imports and taking some 26 per cent of its exports.

The large and growing share the EEC has in the Yugoslav market is in part a reflection of geography and history—besides politics. Significantly the Comecon share is less and falling. But it is also a fact—although the heart of the probably no Yugoslav off- quently where it be substantial— the Community won its significantly, long- movements for Yugoslav exports. Officials are quick to point out the 1976 joint of EEC support seen few improve-

Yugoslav markets were then thrown open to competition from the West. The move boosted the earnings of the Western exporters and helped to stimulate the modernization of the Yugoslav economy, but at what many critics would consider an appalling cost. Community countries, especially West Germany, gained all round. They got new rapidly expanding markets for their products and hundreds of thousands of Yugoslav workers streamed on to the labour market and crossed the border to join their production lines.

A top—if what many in Yugoslavia would consider somewhat belated—priority of the Yugoslav officials in Brussels is to get special protection and rights for the Gastarbeiter (guest workers), as well as help and training for the thousands who are forced to return home because of unemployment in Western Europe. Two hundred thousand have returned in the past four years, boosting the already large ranks of the unemployed.

On the nuts-and-bolts trade questions the Yugoslav officials will be asking for relaxation of restrictions

on its agricultural exports. Officials will focus on the restrictions on beef exports and industry that the EEC first encouraged Yugoslavia to establish then clamped down on. Yugoslav officials have worked out precise quantities which they say the Community can permit without causing any domestic difficulties.

Arguing that the EEC cannot expect a country at Yugoslavia's stage of development to concentrate on industrial exports alone, officials have other ideas to boost agricultural exports. They want a guaranteed market for a million tons a year of maize, an amount they say that the Community would have to import any way. They also want a market for fodder, another community import, and a lifting of other discriminatory measures on their exports of food products and wine.

Yugoslavia is also seeking

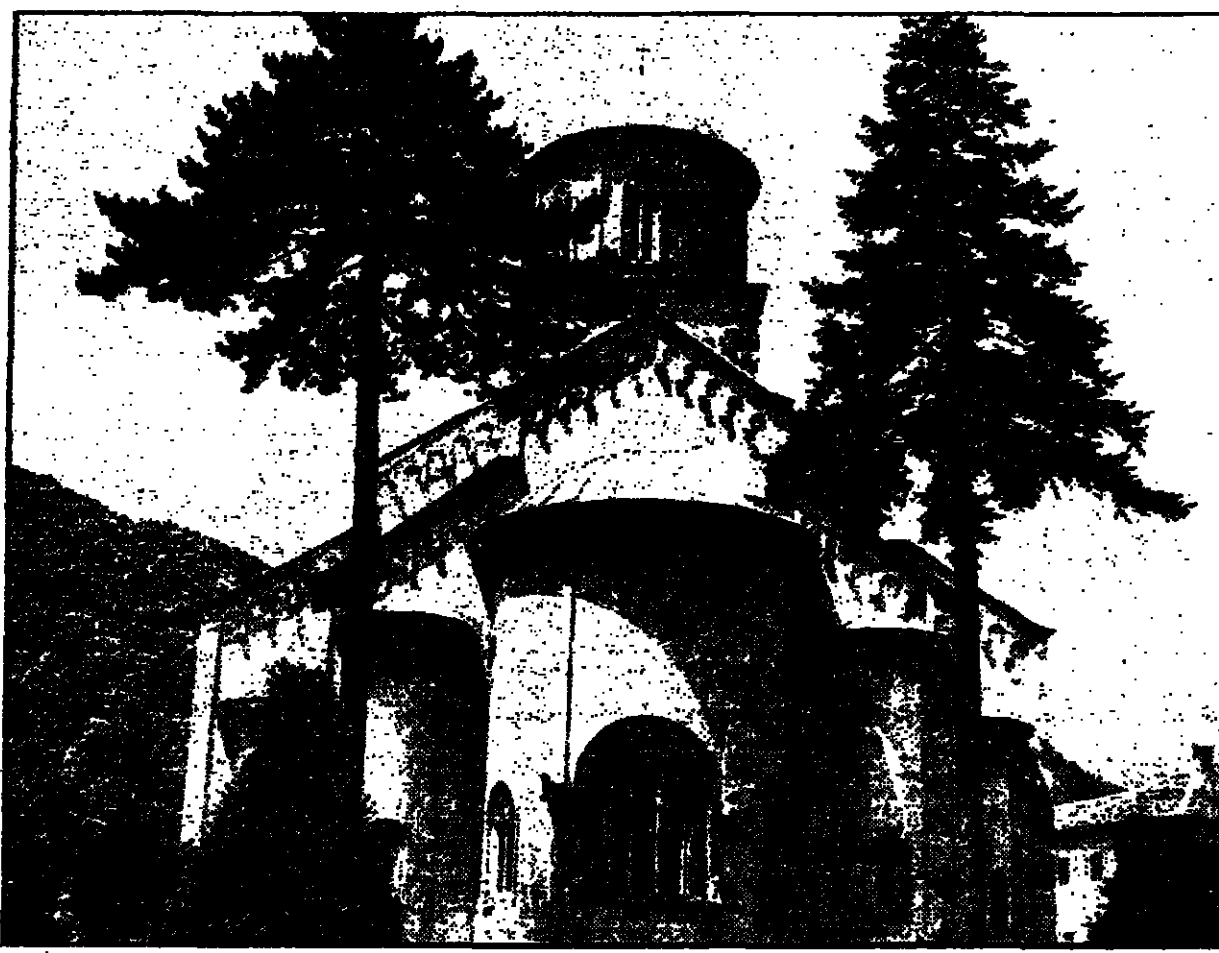
improved markets for its industrial products, especially those produced in coopera- tion with West European partners. The Yugoslavs clearly hope that the Community will accept the logic of doing something for the profits of its own industrial- ists. With the obvious inten- tion of both offering the Community a carrot and strengthening this argu- ment it published a new joint-venture law this month making it easier for West European companies to invest in the Yugoslav economy. The keynote is long-term industrial co- operation.

Yugoslav officials will attempt to get something close to special preferences for their industrial exports, although the country's non- aligned status would pre- vent this. The official argu- ment runs that Yugoslavia is at a distinct disadvantage when competing in West European markets against East European producers, from nine to 12 will have in success.

The latter operate planned on their exports, and are determined to win a prom- ise that the Community will consider this formidable question and compensate for the consequences.

The Yugoslavs point out with some justification that Greece, Spain and Portugal have a similar trade struc- ture to that of Yugoslavia. They also want more Com- munity aid for improvement of Yugoslav transport— something that the Com- munity can hardly refuse when its lorries and railway wagons are thundering through the country to the markets of the East.

Not surprisingly, with all these matters on the hori- zon few expect in Belgrade that the bones of the new agreement will be clear for many weeks. But the over- riding mood in Belgrade is a determined one. Although the Yugoslavs have no illu- sions that the negotiations will be easy, it is widely expected that they will end



The fourteenth-century Decani Monastery in the Kosovo autonomous province is one of the largest Serbian medieval foundations.

A people trained for defence of the nation

Ask a Belgrade typist what Soviet Union, Yugoslav she is doing after work and sources report, moved a mil- you might get the answer lion troops into Czecho- that she is receiving some slovakia in less than six defence training. Every few hours. Only a small nation years she is likely to be with a vast force of men asked to undergo a few and women who have weeks of training, learning downed tools to help the how to tie bandages, tend professional army could the wounded and even repel such a vast mobile treat nuclear fall-out vic- fice.

Talk to a factory-worker Yugoslav idea of self- and he might tell you that dependence, the country his factory has decided to now has a large armaments buy an anti-aircraft gun and industry to supply most of he is receiving training how its needs, especially the to use it. Ask a schoolgirl equipment judged necessary what she learnt at school to fight a guerrilla war in and she might tell you Yugoslavia. Officials esti- about her class on defence mate they are now produc- ing 70 per cent of Yugosla- via's arms needs and 90 per cent of all its military needs. Production includes most of the light weapons and anti-tank and anti-air- craft missiles needed. The industry is even ready to turn out a tank designed for the Yugoslav terrain.

Ask a housewife what she listened to on the radio last Monday morning and she might tell you of the regular programme which starts and ends with the chilling sound of sirens and the words: "This is the noise you will hear if there is ever an air raid." The speaker then goes on to introduce the housewife to experts who tell her how to treat the injured.

All this activity, which appears to embrace just about the whole nation, is called the system of all- people's defence. If necessary Yugoslavia—a country with 22 million people—could, President Tito said in a recent American television interview, field an army of eight millions.

Mr Edvard Kardelj, the man who together with two others now dead, plucked the idea of workers' self- management out of Marx's *Das Kapital* and endorsed it for Yugoslavia, sees total people's defence fitting into his democratic scheme of things. Every individual should be able to play a part, and be organized, to defend his country.

But while Mr Kardelj, the quiet Communist from Slo- venia who is second only to President Tito, can fit the system into his democratic conception of things, mili- tary strategists will provide plenty of other arguments for it. These have grown in strength since the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czecho- slovakia a decade ago. In what many consider the most brilliant campaign in military history the

Such reticence may have something to do with the times. It may have some- thing to do with general strategy, too. An unknown force may be a more effective deterrent than a known one and the less reported the better.

Clearly officials have also been angered recently by a German magazine article that predicted that Yugosla- via could withstand an inva- sion force for about three days—or a week at the most. Whatever the effec- tiveness of the Yugoslav All-people's Defence Force, this is hardly credible. The Vietnam War decisively revealed the limits of the power of super powers.

P.R.

Iskra

What is ISKRA?

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Known for its products world-wide ISKRA has seven com- mercial companies abroad and eight representatives with a total turnover of US\$150m in 1977, of which US\$82m was for export.

The domestic market is covered by 14 offices, 30 shops, 34 servicing centres and also 300 servicing agents.

A special emphasis is given to R and D and invention. There are 1,600 R and D engineers, with the institute for quality, to test the final products.

ISKRA has received over 230 awards for the industrial and graphic design of its products.

ISKRA also cooperates with scientists and Research Institu- tions on a large scale to improve its products.

ISKRA invested 4 per cent of the total turnover into R and D in 1977, and within the next four years it will go up to 4.2 per cent in order to modernize the existing production pro- gramme, with most interest in developing the following markets:

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The special success which ISKRA has already achieved in some very important projects (Automation, microelectronic- ics and Optoelectronics) is a solid base for ISKRA Success in the future.

ISKRA LIMITED is the wholly owned British subsidiary and is responsible for marketing and selling the entire range of products of the Parent Group throughout the United King- dom. It achieves this by maintaining warehouse stocks at the Coudsdon premises and making products available through a chain of selected distributors throughout the country. A full list of distributors is available on application.

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ON THE FIRST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH EUROPE GETS A LITTLE SMALLER.

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the House of Commons the Wales Bill in the form which it emerges from committee will provide an excellent example of why a revising committee is necessary. The Bill in which the House was engaged was not a triumph of wit and draftsmanship. As the Scotland Bill, the lines of demarcation between the responsibilities of the assembly and Westminster have not been set at all satisfactorily. But on Wednesday evening the Government applied its collective wisdom to make the Bill not simply useful but absurd.

I decided to remove Clause 82 which provided that the Bill did not come into force until order had been laid before Parliament and the Secretary of State had approved. The effect of removing that clause would be that the Bill would come into operation as soon as it had received the Royal Assent. That did be fair enough except that Clause 83 provides for a referendum to influence, probably to decide, whether an Assembly did be set up at all. And at the same time I am knowing that Clause 82 the referendum strengthened the referendum by requiring the Secretary of State to lay an order before Parliament for the repeal of the Act if less than forty per cent of the Welsh electorate vote in assembly in a referendum. The natural course would be for the Commons to restore Clause 82 at the report stage. It would not make sense to have a referendum without it; and a referendum is widely regarded, especially by Conservatives who provided most of the votes against Clause 82 on Wednesday, as a safeguard against an assembly being foisted on their Welsh people against their wishes. If the Commons fails to make this necessary change then it will be up to the Government to prevent a legislative nonsense.

This correction ought to be approved by most supporters and opponents of the Bill. But that would still leave the broader question of whether the Bill deserves to be supported anyway. It has its intrinsic weaknesses, though there is at this time less reason to fear in the case of Wales than of Scotland that there might be a majority in the assembly opposed to the continuation of the United Kingdom and therefore possibly unwilling to make devolution work. Nor is it proved that the Welsh assembly should have powers of primary legislation, so it should be less of a radical change in the existing procedures by which the United Kingdom is governed. Yet the demand for even this degree of change has been less evident in Wales than in Scotland, and there can be no doubt that if Scotland were not being given an assembly there would be no prospect of one for Wales.

So both the case for

policeman who goes on strike
 is at present a criminal
 punishable with a maxi-
 mum of two years' imprisonment.
 The Police Federation, which in
 fact represents the service
 men, has been negotiating with the
 Home Office and local authori-
 ties. It is denied by law many of
 the rights that ordinary trade
 unionists enjoy—in particular the
 right to be affiliated to the TUC.
 The disabilities have been
 increasingly resented by the
 police, and last year the Police
 Federation passed a motion de-
 manding the right to strike
 and, significantly, it rejected
 the offer of calling for TUC affilia-
 tion with all that that might
 imply in terms of political
 commitment. Now a report by
 the Industrial Society proposes
 that the federation should be
 constituted as an ordinary
 trade union, and that its mem-
 bers should enjoy the same legal
 status as other workers. The
 motion, which commissioned
 the report, means to submit it
 to Lord Edmund-Davies's inquiry
 into police pay and conditions.
 The police and the armed
 forces are almost the only groups

of workers still denied the right
 to strike in Britain today. Many
 members of both groups would
 claim that the fact has led to
 them being unfairly treated in
 the application of pay controls.
 In the case of the police, the
 truth is almost the reverse: the
 1975 pay controls were bent to
 their advantage, and since then
 they have merely shared in the
 general decline in real earn-
 ings. It is true that in denying
 the police the right to defend
 their pay and conditions in
 any way legitimate and customary
 among other workers, the state
 necessarily takes on special
 responsibility to ensure that they
 do not suffer in consequence.
 But there is no reason to believe
 that it has seriously fallen short
 in this respect.

The Industrial Society's pro-
 posals would, probably, find
 strong support in all parts of
 the police service. The attitude
 of the public would certainly be
 very different. The fear that
 a police strike might mean an
 immediate outbreak of public
 lawlessness is no fanciful one:
 several strikes in American
 cities, such as the ones in

decisions about the future products and processes using advanced technology never be cut and dried. A choice has to be made between one system or another, almost never the case that is being compared precisely like. In particular, choices have to be made between systems that are at very different stages of development. Huge sums of judgment, even guesses are involved in comparing them at a fairly advanced stage of development with one that still has many years of development before it can be operational. All of these choices have surrounded the system which the International Civil Aviation Organization has adopted on the next generation blind landing systems.

However, not chemists agree that the system finally decided against the system, developed by the ICAO, in favour of the system which the Americans and Canadians have been working on. Commercial interests cannot have exerted substantial pressure to stop the decision going in Plessey's favour. For Plessey would thus have been put in commanding commercial position. In large international organizations, like the ICAO, it is inevitable that decisions of this importance should be subject to non-technical influences. The Americans have conducted a powerful and ultimately successful exercise in industrial power politics.

The parallels are not exact, but the way in which the brilliant Decca navigation system was excluded from general use as the basic aid to air navigation in North America was another instance where domestic political and industrial interests appeared to override any purely technical evaluation of the foreign system's merits. Looked at from the perspective of the Old World, it is unhappy that the impression should thus be created that the infinitely most advanced technological country in the world should not be prepared to allow open technical competition in

Miss Farnida Rajah and Miss A. Rajah

say we as young members of disaffected 'minority' (your 8-article, April 14) who have been 'suffering' from the 'curse' of all our lives, be allowed to our opinions regarding the 'Conservative' proposals on racism.

Now, we have always felt that we had best interests at heart, and that there be some effective immigration control. But we hoped that the measures that to be taken would be without the sobriety raised in the past. Instead, we have a flamboyant and emotive language is used; and now the case fit to put forward plans for discrimination based upon 'race' together with the superior attitude of your leading article of April 8 to such plans. It diminishes our belief that racial discrimination is becoming accepted and that we say, justified.

It is damaging, however, is the effect of these new proposals and the whole controversy surrounding it on young Asians, themselves, who have been misled by English culture and of life. It seems to be one of fear and insecurity in a country we are inclined to see as a free one.

What may we bring to focus on this disquieting nature of the Conservative proposals: their

From Sister Maura O'Carroll, SND
 Sir, I do not wish to dispute the feelings expressed by Mrs Graham Greene and others in their letter of April 14. Nevertheless the accuracy of the phrase "the Tridentine Mass" which in substance has been celebrated ever since St Augustine and his monks came to Canterbury was questioned. The "substance" of the Mass today, as at the time of St Augustine, and of Trent, is the same that Christ gave to his Church. The liturgical manner in which the "substance" has been celebrated has varied and developed considerably, and is the subject of many historical studies. To imply that the Mass was monolithically unchanged in its ceremonies from 597 to 1563 is historically inaccurate. It is not a lack of appreciation of Church history that leads to much of the present misunderstanding of the Church and the mission given her by Christ?

Yours faithfully,
 MAURA O'CARROLL, SND,
 Convent of Notre Dame,
 4 Windmill Drive, SW4.

From Lady Brunner
Sir, Today's (April 19) report from your Health Service Correspondent on the extraordinary dealings at Dulwich Hospital quotes Mr Stewart Manson, chairman of the district management team, as saying that the committee of inquiry had given the operating theatre "a formula for harmony" and welcomed the recommendation to establish a theatre users committee.
I think it is likely that should this committee be formed, the patients would be strongly represented on it.
For, as at Heathrow in endless weeks of strikes and working to rule, the old and infirm and handicapped mothers with young children, to say nothing of business men with urgent dates to help strengthen our economy and visitors from abroad are the ones who suffer.
In the light of all this shaming discord, compassion and a caring community seem fragments of a national imagination and new magic to the world at large pretty much impossible. We desperately need "a formula for harmony" through-out the public services if public services are what their name would seem to imply.
Yours faithfully,
LILLIAN BRUNNER,
Greys Court,
Near Hendon-on-Thames,
Middlesex.
April 19.

From Sir Peter Masefield

Sir, Clearly, much more than an order for 19 aircraft is involved in British Airways' proposed "off the peg" purchase of Boeing 737s to replace aging Trident.

The unchallenged monopoly of the United States in very long range, wide body, aircraft is, though, fortunately, not in their engines or equipment. This is a point to concern about damage to employment and overseas earnings in British Aerospace by wider commitments overseas.

Although it is clear that British Airways' analyses of the 737-200 for a part of its route pattern show an economic advantage against the Eleven 600, everyone in the air transport business knows that all such comparative analyses are hypersensitive to route patterns and to the assumptions made, especially on the subject of fuel costs.

Differing inputs bring differing answers, and, as an example, the One Eleven operated by British Caledonian on its routes achieve substantially better economic results than the unit for a different aircraft for a different job. "Horses for courses."

That will remain true in many export applications. After the termination of these well-established export markets for the One Eleven and other aircraft and engines, the major issue remains the longer term plans for the next generation of medium-range aircraft, and where they and their engines will be signed and assembled—points which appear to have escaped my friend Nigel Foulkes (letter, April 20).

Though everyone in air transport

not seen finer long term opportunities for British and European civil aircraft production (with some American input), nor more open markets awaiting firm and clear decisions.

Unto the breach, dear friends" . . .

PETER MASEFIELD, Joint Deputy Chairman
Caledonian Airways,
Rossell,
Doods Way,
Reigate,
Surrey
April 20.

From Mr H. V. T. Bland

Sir, The view expressed by Professor Flowers Williams April 19 in your columns concerning British Airways' proposal to buy American aircraft is understandable in view of the consequent reduction in employment levels in the UK aircraft industry. However, to suggest that our government should not allow British Airways the aircraft it wants is to accept that the US government would be within its rights to veto Eastern Airlines' decision to buy the European Airbus for preference over American aircraft. Such a move, would be a grave catastrophe for the European aircraft industry including the UK, as this contract has at last opened up the huge US market to European aircraft.

The long term benefits of winning the British Airways contract for the UK would easily be outweighed by the long term effect of losing the opportunity to export aircraft to the US in large num-

From Sir Derek Ezra

Sir, I would like to draw attention to one aspect of the recent Budget which has caused serious concern to managers. It is the failure to seize the opportunity to ease the drastic squeeze on managers' after-tax earnings.

It is perhaps not generally realized that the staggering has been the squeeze on differential under pay policy and high taxation. Since 1973 the real take-home pay of the person on average earnings has fallen by 7 per cent, while in the same period the fall in the middle manager's disposable power has declined by one-fifth (20 per cent) and that of the senior executive by about one third (33 per cent).

After this Budget the man on average earnings (around £4,250 a year) will see an improvement in real take-home pay (ie, net price rises into account) of about 2 per cent while the middle manager (of say £8,500 a year) will get an improvement in real take-home pay of about 4 per cent.

Put another way, the immediate effect of the Budget measures is to give the man on average earnings an increase in actual take-home pay of 4 per cent, while the middle manager and senior executive will suffer an adverse differential from which the middle manager has suffered over these years has been made worse. This could have been avoided if there had been some reduction in the standard rate of tax and the bands had been adjusted differently.

In view of the crucial importance of getting Britain's economy moving, it is surely not too much to hope that this anomaly, affecting such large numbers of people, should

be corrected as soon as possible. There is, additionally, the disincentive effect of the maintenance of the higher levels of tax which was referred to in your leading article of April 18.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK EZRA,
Chairman of Council,
British Institute of Management,
Management House,
Park Street, WC2,
April 19.

From Mr Frank Neale

Sir, You concluded in your leader today (April 18) that to reduce the top rate of income tax to 70 per cent would "in no way undermine the fight against inflation". I must strongly disagree with this view.

If inflation is to be beaten without a serious rise in unemployment some form of pay policy must continue to be successful. For a pay policy to succeed it must be seen to be fair, in a socially just manner. Ver proposals would lower the tax bill of a married man with no children earning £100,000 per annum by 10 per cent, giving him an extra £10,085 in his pocket. With such a proposal, it is hardly surprising I am sure you will agree that the Government would have some difficulty in persuading the majority, whose annual earnings are much less than this tax saving, to exercise their tax claims.

Yours faithfully,
F. NEALE,
3 Windley Court,
Eastcote Lane,
Harrow,
Middlesex.

From Mr Villiers Berge
Sir, Your report on the "Carrington report" forecasts the impotence of a Conservative government confronted by trade unions with skilled technician membership, and quotes the view that use of the armed forces might "permanently damage the fabric and practice of the country's politics". Anarchy would be far more damaging.

Any government, and most justifiably a democratically-elected one, must govern in the last resort by using the police and armed forces not to replace but to coerce, and by controlling the money supply to compel obedience.

As in international relations, power is the ultimate resource and a Conservative or any other British government which was not prepared to use it would avert economic catastrophe would be superseded—probably by one of more Bolshevik determination though lacking popular suffrage. That this would not avert catastrophe should fortify the resolution of the elected government in power.

That the forces of law and order should be adequate in numbers, and that order and morale is the first requirement of a modern state, as all are threatened by subversion.

Yours faithfully,
VILLIERS BERGUE,
57, Addison Road, W14.
April 18.

From the Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

Sir, I am an interested party in the case of Slava Rostropovich and Galina Vislinskaya, having enjoyed their friendship for over 15 years, in Moscow as well as elsewhere. I hope however that I am not alone among your readers in finding very distasteful Bernard Levin's article on them (April 19), the net effect of which is to cast doubt on their moral integrity. People, particularly those with such extraordinary gifts as the Rostropovichs, have each to meet their own fate in their own way. I personally would be proud to have done so as bravely as Slava and Galina, and find something ludicrous in the unwarranted comparative remarks for Part II of the Tripos in Herodism. Yours faithfully,

DUNCAN WILSON.
The Master's Lodge,
Corpus Christi College,
Cambridge.
April 19.

From the Reverend A. Graham Hellier

Sir, Bernard Levin has often been in my service, and those who fight for freedom but this has not earned him the right to criticise Mstislav Rostropovich and his wife. It must surely be recognised that Mr Levin's style of confrontation politics does not represent the whole truth; that there are those who occupy other ground, with perfect integrity and that even where this is not the case, it is rarely given to us to judge or condemn.

Yours sincerely,
A. GRAHAM HELLIER,
27 Dormington Drive,
Tussey,
Hemel Hempstead,
April 19.

From Alderman David Stimpson
Sir, I write on the eve of the
Lambeth Central by-election, know-
ing that this letter cannot be
published before the result is
known. Indeed, I have no wish to
interfere with the political game, my
sole concern is the morale of the people in
this part of South London.
I fear this has taken something
of a battering as a result of pre-
selection coverage in the news-
papers. Brixton and the surround-
ing area has been depicted as a
place of despair, beset by racial
tensions and with no hope for the
future. The problems facing
Lambeth and similar inner city
areas should certainly not be under-
estimated, but the gloomy
impression has been created which
I certainly do not share.
Brixton is a lively, interesting
town with a friendly, multi-racial
community. Taking some visitors
to the area recently I was
struck by the high level of activity
aimed at upgrading the physical
fabric. A great deal of building and
renovation work is going on to
improve the public and private
housing stock, leisure facilities and
the general environment.
Whatever the political complexion
of this council after May 4, it is
clear that such remains to be
done. I am sure, given the
confidence and support of the
local residents and business men,
and with the help of our new inner
city partnership with the Govern-
ment, there will be a very real
improvement in the quality of life in
Lambeth.
In other words, don't believe
everything you read in the news-
papers!
Yours faithfully,
DAVID STIMPSON.
Alderman, Lambeth Council,
Town Hall,
Brixton Hill, SW2.
April 19.

From Mr Brian Court-Mappin
I, rejoice at the prospect of a
50-foot high wall round the pro-
posed Russian Embassy buildings in
Kensington because, like the Berlin
wall, it will illustrate far more than
words the regime it represents.
Notwithstanding the fact that the
Russian inhabitants will feel quite
at home behind its restrictive
facade, I suspect the majority of
our Majesty's subjects passing will
undoubtedly be conscious of the
freedom without.
Yours very sincerely,
BRIAN COURT-MAPPIN,
Hamilton Square,
E1.

From Professor O. Hood-Phillips, QC
Sir, Professor Atiyah in today's issue (April 18) draws attention to the report of a recent decision of the House of Lords in *Macarthys Ltd v. Smith*, a case referred to it by an Italian court, from which it appears that the European Court held that it is the duty of the national courts to apply Community law directly and to apply Community law in preference to subsequently enacted national law: from which it would follow that British courts now have the power and the duty to declare Acts of Parliament invalid in so far as they conflict with the directly applicable law of the Community.

This may be good Community law but, but, but, it is not good British constitutional law. We should distinguish between the treaty-making power of the Crown (the Government) and the law-making power of Parliament. The latter is ample judicial authority for saying that treaties entered into by

From Mr Peter Galliner

Sir, Professor Alan Thompson (Sir April 15) makes a valuable contribution to the discussion on what difficult media should take in the circumstances of terrorist attacks.

Two years ago in Philadelphia, the International Press Institute General Assembly launched international discussions on the issue with a session addressed by Sir Robert Mark, Dr Dick Mulder, the eminent Dutch psychologist and Mr J. Bowser Bell of Columbia University. Leading editors and publishers from many countries found the experience invaluable and the debate has continued.

The British Committee of IPI brought media representatives together with chief constables, high-ranking Home Office officials and government ministers for a one-day conference in London last November. We are in the process of planning a European conference with editors, police and government officials later this year. We hope this will reinforce the responsible approach advocated by Professor Thompson faithfully.

Yours faithfully,
PETER GALLINER, Director,
International Press Institute,
London Secretariat,
City University,
280 St John Street, EC1.

From Miss Penelope Harvey
 Sir, How tempting and simple
 is Kenneth Huxley's view (letter, April
 19), that the recognition by the
 British Government of the internal
 Rhodesian settlement will halt the
 growing bloody conflict in that
 country. I cannot, however, see how
 it is possible to halt any war with-
 out negotiating with the side doing
 the fighting.
 Bishop Muzorewa and Mr
 Mchale have both claimed that they

the United Kingdom exercise do not in themselves take effect as part of our domestic law, and that the law of this realm can only be altered by Act of Parliament. In so far as Community law is or may be law in this country, it is or becomes so not by virtue of the Treaties but by virtue of the European Communities Act, 1972 : and from the point of view of British law the European Communities Act is a statute of the same judicial nature as any other Act of Parliament.

British courts, whose jurisdiction is exercised nowadays by Acts of Parliament, would be expected therefore to apply a later Act dealing with a particular matter (eg. a tax) to the extent that it appeared to them to be clearly inconsistent with the earlier provisions of section 2 of the European Communities Act.

Yours faithfully,
O. HOOD-PHILLIPS,
24 HEATON DRIVE,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham.
April 18.

From Dr R. H. Mole

Sir, Professor Radford (April 7) voiced objections to the lack of British response to his evidence at the Windscale Inquiry and to the position of the International Commission on Radiological Protection on radiation safety. He criticised especially the role of Sir Edward Pochin as Assessor to the inquiry and as a member of the Inter-Departmental Committee. He stressed his own standing as chairman of a sub-committee and then a committee of the United States National Academy of Sciences. He said that neither the sub-committee or main committee supported his objections. Unless he can do this, his objections need have no more weight than those of any individual who may think that he has not been given the regard which is his due.

PENELOPE HARVEY,
12 Cook's Folly Road,
Snayd Park, Bristol.

From Mr. Derek Ingram
Sir, How does Mrs Huxley know Nkomo "scarcely commands any support at all"? Has she conducted an opinion poll among the six million Africans of Rhodesia? The fact that Nkomo's following is small—encouraged by the Salisbury regime and interested parties here—has been repeated so many times in recent months that it is now being accepted by press and politicians alike.
The truth is that nobody knows. Since Nkomo is the father of African nationalism in Rhodesia the opposition is at least highly dubious. Until a free election is held statements based on guesses as to what people will believe are misleading and highly dangerous.
Yours faithfully,
DEREK INGRAM,
Wyndham Mews, WL

ROCKWARE GROUP '77

"Another record year for the company and an improvement over 1976 of more than 24 per cent." J.H. Craigie, Chairman

- * Seventh record year in succession for Group pre-tax profits.
- * Progress was maintained in spite of a disappointing second half in Rockware Glass.
- * Rockware Plastics operating profit was 150 per cent up.
- * BRK, the glass mould making subsidiary, made record profits, with 36 per cent of its business in exports.
- * The new engineering subsidiary, Rockware Kingspeed, settled down well.
- * Rockware International made a substantial profit contribution.

	1977 £000s	1976 £000s
SALES	89,223	72,554
PROFIT before tax	7,778	6,266
PROFIT after tax and minority interests	6,872	5,668*
ORDINARY DIVIDEND maximum permitted	8.00p	5.36p
EARNINGS PER SHARE	33.06p	31.64p*

*1976 figures have been re-stated to reflect the change in the accounting treatment of deferred taxation.

"We are now in a good position to take advantage of the greater consumption which should be brought about by the recent budget, and of any increased seasonal demand"

The Annual General Meeting of Rockware Group Limited will be held at 3.00 p.m. on 17th May, 1978 at Winchester House, (Hall 14) 100 Old Broad Street, London EC2.

Queen's awards for exports and technology

By Edward Townsend

Small British companies who have sold loudspeakers to Japan, dairy products to Holland and logs to Sweden and Norway are among the 124 Queen's Awards for exports and technology announced today.

They join divisions of large industrial groups like the British Steel Corporation, ICI, GEC and Plessey in winning awards for which this year there were a record of 1,860 applications, 51 more than in 1977.

The pharmaceutical division of Imperial Chemical Industries receives one of the 17 technology awards for the development of the drug Tamoxifen, used in the treatment of breast cancer, and a similar award goes to the research institute of Smith Kline and French Laboratories of Welwyn Garden City for the discovery and development of Tagamet, a drug which allows treatment of peptic ulcers without the need for surgery.

Two other ICI divisions won technology awards in the areas of high organic chemistry and crop protection. Among those to win awards for export achievement are Invicta Plastics of Leicester, manufacturer of the game Master Mind and other plastic products, which reports a five-fold increase in exports, and a small soft drinks firm, Solest Canners of Southampton, whose principal brand, Vimto, is beating international competition in the Middle East.

The smallest company to win an award is Tufting Industries of Co Antrim, a three-man concern which has doubled exports in the last three years of tufted bedspreads and dressing gowns.

In the export award section, a number of non-manufacturing companies are honoured for

their invisible exports. They include Booker Agriculture International of London which provides management, consultancy and training services to overseas clients, and C. E. Heath of London, a Lloyd's insurance broker.

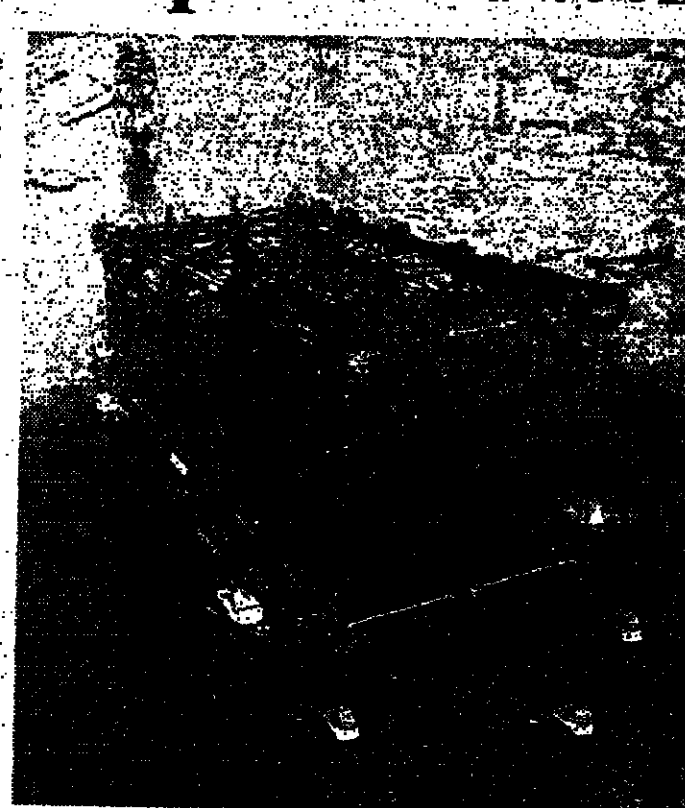
B. and W. Loudspeakers of Warrington gain the award for exporting loudspeaker systems to 30 countries, including Japan and the United States, and Forest Thinnings of Hampshire is recognized for its success in increasing by seven times its exports of timber to Scandinavia, France, Germany and Holland. Eilers and Wheeler (UK) of London is awarded for its tenfold increase in exports of butter and dairy products.

Technology awards to companies for work associated with development of the North Sea oilfields include one to CJB Offshore, a member of the John Brown Group, for the project engineering of the Thistle "A" oil production platform, the biggest structure of its type in the world.

Subsidiaries of three nationalized industries, British Steel Corporation (Overseas Services); International Aeradio, part of British Airways; and Transportation Systems and Marker Research, a British Rail subsidiary, all win export awards.

Two Ministry of Defence divisions, the Royal Ordnance Factories for sales of defence stores and equipment, and the Hydrographic Department at Taunton for world sales of charts and publications, receive export awards.

Blacks of Greenock, the company which produces the special flags flown by the Queen's Award winners, itself gets an award for a big increase in exports of tents and camping equipment, flags and tarpaulins to 30 countries.



Thistle "A", the 35,000-ton, 968-ft high North Sea oil production platform, for which CJB Offshore, gained the Queen's Award to industry for technological achievement.

Here is a complete list of the Queen's Awards for export and technology:

FOR EXPORT

A. & J. (Staples); A. E. Auto-parts; AGA Navigation Aids; The Cryogenic Systems Division of Air Products; Alginette Industries; Aljose Fashions; Anco Productions (Portsmouth); Arto Chemicals; The Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers.

B. & W. Loudspeakers; Balfour Beatty; Bearings (Non-Lube); Blacks of Greenock; Bland Payne Holdings; Booker

Agriculture International; Borthorpe Cropstores; Bradbury Wilkinson; Bruidhaire & Co Structural; British Steel Corporation (Overseas Services); David Brown Tractors; Frans Buitelaar.

Camrex; Carnation Foods; Hamish Cathie Travel Scotland; Clan Laid Fashions Scotland; Conference Services; Conoco; The Magnetic Media Manufacturing Division of Control Data; Coronet EM; Costain International.

D.J.B. Engineering; Davies Turner & Co; Michael Davis (Shipping); Dawson Keith Electric; Thomas De La Rue & Co; Duxee Fabrics.

Eilers & Wheeler (UK); Elcometer Instruments; Electrosonic; Elliott Turbomachinery; The International Division of EMI Records; The Clay Division of English China Clays; Ever Ready Co (Holdings); Ewbank and Partners.

Farrow Irrigation; The Pharmaceutical Division of Fisons; Floagates; Forest Thinnings; GEC Measurements; General Instrument Microelectronics; Glenhill Furnishings; W. R. Grace; Grest Exports; Ganson's Sorex.

William Hare; C. E. Heath & Co; Hestair Dennis; L. B. Holliday & Co; The Aviation Division of Alexander Howden Insurance Brokers.

International Aeradio; International Aviation Services (UK); International Genetics; Invicta Plastics.

J. K. Lasers; James Johnston & Co of Elgin; Justair & Brooks.

Kangol Wear; Kodak; Kwik-form.

Maber & Johnson; Magnetic Components; Marconi Avionics; Medelec; Minet Holdings; The Hydrographic Department of the Ministry of Defence; Royal Ordnance Factories Ministry of Defence; A. B. Moody & Son; Alan Newman.

Ogdens (Orley); The Pacific Steam Navigation Company; Frederick Parker; Peter Power Generation; The Electronic Exchange Division of Plessey.

Portakabin; The Pullman Kellogg Division of Pullman Incorporated in the United Kingdom; Ratsey & Laphorn; Rowntree Maltintosh; Royal Doulton; Tableware; Ruston Gas Turbines.

SGB Export; The Serck Glocon Division of Serck Audco-

Valves International; Shearwater Steel Co; Sheffield Buns; Shubens of London; Simon Hartley; Simon-Vickers; The Link-Miles Division of The Singer Co (UK); Hugh Smith (Glasgow); Solest Canners; South Wales Switchgear; Spax Decks.

John Taylor & Sons; Transposition Systems & Marker Research; Tufting Industries; UBM Overseas; White Horse Distillers; Wiggins Teape.

FOR TECHNOLOGY

Acoustical Manufacturing; Hummingbird—for a circuit design claimed to be the first successful application of field forward techniques for Hi-Fi audio amplifiers.

The Nondestructive Testing Centre, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Oxfordshire—Development in collaboration with Rolls-Royce of techniques in high energy radiography.

Roy Subocean Services, Herefordshire—Development of underwater welding equipment.

Brookdeal Electronics, Bracknell; Berkshire—Development of fourth-generation signal processing instruments which provide improved performance and new abilities.

CJB Offshore, London—Design and development of production platform facilities and support structures for use with the Thistle Field in the North Sea.

Dowry Mining Equipment, Tewkesbury—Development of control systems used with powered roof supports in mines.

East-Malling Research Station, Kent—Development in collaboration with Wye College of hop plants of greatly improved performance due to freedom from virus infection.

Powder, Foreign Division of GKN Forgings, Worcester—Development of powder forging techniques.

Mond Division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Runcorn, Cheshire—Development of inorganic oxide fibres.

Pharmaceutical Division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Macclesfield, Cheshire—Development of Tamoxifen, an anti-oestrogen drug which is used in the treatment of breast cancer.

Plant Protection Division of Imperial Chemical Industries, Runcorn, Cheshire—Development of an insecticide which is claimed to be both versatile and outstandingly safe.

Research and Development Department of the Pilkington Group, Lancashire—Development of alkali-resistant glass fibre for the reinforcement of cement products.

Research and Development Unit of Quantel, Caterham, Surrey—Development in collaboration with an associate company, Micro Consultants, of digital techniques for use in television broadcasting.

Racal-Dice, Instruments—Development of synthesized signal generators.

Advanced Projects Department, Test Operations, of Rolls Royce, Bristol—Development in collaboration with the Non-destructive Testing Centre at Harwell, of techniques for using high energy radiography in the development of gas-turbine engines.

Research Institute, Smith Kline and French Laboratories, Welwyn Garden City—Discovery and development of cimetidine (Tagamet), used in the treatment of peptic ulcers.

Department of Hop Research, Wye College, Kent—Development in collaboration with the East-Malling Research Station, of new varieties of hop plants.

C.E.Heath double invisible earnings over 3 years to gain The Queen's Award for Export Achievement



Our award comes from channelling insurance and reinsurance premiums through the London market from clients all over the world. The results are good for the C. E. Heath Group. More important, they're good for Britain. And they're good for Lloyd's and the London Insurance Market. It's an achievement that makes us feel proud.

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Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited announces that on and after **21st April 1978** its base rate will be **7½%** per annum

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Rowntree Mackintosh

Limited

1978
The Queen's Award for Export Achievement

AMERICAN CO SOUTH AFRICA

NOTES

Due to an error in the printing of the 20th April 1978, of interest rate, the actual rate is 10.00%.

The values of the actual rate have been made for a 10.00% rate.

The reports will be available to the public on the 20th April 1978, at the offices of the Transfer Secretariat Limited, P.O. Box 100, Johannesburg, South Africa.

40 HOLLORN

De Beers in 1977

Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer reports

The year 1977 was a record breaking one for De Beers in all respects. Sales by the Central Selling Organisation amounted to US\$2,073 million, an increase of 33% as compared with the previous year. The market was very strong throughout the year and by the end of 1977 the demand for all qualities of goods was at an unprecedented level in spite of the price increases and the sale to the cutting centres of more carats than ever before. This was due, firstly, to a strong and solid demand for diamond jewellery at the retail level but also to a measure of speculative trading which has in the first months of 1978 risen to a level which must be regarded as unhealthy and unsound. The effect of our substantial price increase last December could not yet have filtered through and been reflected in prices of diamond jewellery, and the premiums above CSO prices being paid for rough in the secondary markets are certainly quite unrelated to basic consumer demand and well above what in our judgement could be sustained in present circumstances. This speculation reflects an increasing use of diamonds not for jewellery but as a store of value and it is reinforced by fears about the instability of currencies, and a widespread belief among our customers that the very existence of such premiums must induce the CSO to make further substantial increases in its basic selling prices without proper regard to the state of demand by the ultimate consumers of diamonds.

Stocks in the cutting centres are in consequence unduly high and to a large extent they are being

financed by credit, some of it based on the premium prices ruling. The dangers of such a situation should there be any downturn in the market need no emphasis. It is the established policy of the CSO to maintain its selling prices at a level which it believes can be maintained on a long-term basis. We will not, therefore, make further increases in our basic selling prices unless and until we are satisfied that such increases are justified in relation to the retail demand for diamonds. On the other hand, in fairness to the producers for whom it acts, the CSO cannot allow such speculative dealing to go on without taking steps to enable the producers to benefit from the premiums that are being paid. Accordingly surcharges at rates judged appropriate at the time of sale will be charged by the CSO until such time as a reasonable relationship has been restored between the market price of rough diamonds and the prices of polished diamonds at the retail level.

Sales of industrial diamonds were also at a record level in 1977, both in respect of natural and synthetic goods. Our research organisation continues to develop new specialised products with great success and the outlook for the current year remains favourable.

The Group's net attributable profits at R623 million were more than double the 1976 figure of R306 million which was a record at the time. Dividends on the deferred shares were increased by 30% from 35 cents to 52.5 cents per share. Allowing for minority interests, the net investments, loan levy and net current assets at 31st December attributable

to De Beers amounted to R1,262 million, or 351 cents per deferred share compared with 228 cents the previous year.

Total diamond production by the Group rose to 11.8 million carats as compared with 10.5 million carats in 1976, an increase of 12%.

Far-reaching capital programmes are in progress and others have been initiated to bring about a substantial increase in productive capacity. Most important of all, potentially, is the new mine discovered by De Beers at Jwaneng in Botswana. It will take about four years to bring the mine to production.

After completion of a comprehensive job of evaluation an integrated wage scale has been introduced for employees of all races on the Group's mines in South Africa and Namibia. All local black employees, numbering more than 1,700 of the Kimberley Division were admitted during the year to membership of the De Beers Pension Fund and the Company made a lump sum payment of R3.5 million to the fund.

Progress continues to be made towards the elimination of the migrant labour system in the Kimberley Division; the proportion of black workers who live locally with their families is now about 60% and is continuing to rise. Agreement has been reached with the authorities for the establishment of financially assisted home ownership schemes for black employees in Kimberley and Koffiefontein and at CDM the first Ovambo married employees to be housed with their families arrived at Oranjemund in June. Selection and training facilities have been expanded and improved throughout the Group. All this goes a very long way towards eliminating all forms of racial discrimination within our control, and our intention is to remove such anomalies as still exist in the course of the year.

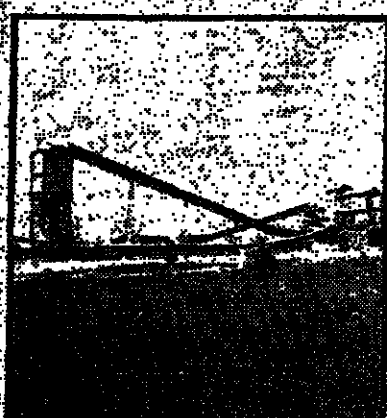
Certain changes have been made in relation to CDM which last year contributed 22% of De Beers' net profit. We have moved the head office of the CDM company to Windhoek and have appropriated in the CDM accounts an amount of R25 million for the purpose, if it is proved economically possible, of diversifying our activities in Namibia outside the diamond industry.

Output increases as new sources are found and developed



Exploration

Following successful discoveries of new diamond deposits in Botswana the worldwide search continues.



Development

Development of new mines and expansion programmes will substantially increase group diamond production within the next two years.



Opening

Prime Minister, Chief Lesiba Jonathan, who opened the Letsibeng Mine in Lesotho, November 1977, with Mr. Harry Oppenheimer.

De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

For the full Report & Accounts for 1977 including the Chairman's Statement, please send this coupon to:

The London Secretaries, Room 7,
De Beers Consolidated Mines Ltd.,
40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Handwritten signature: J. H. Oppenheimer

James Hard Mills end £83m expansion

James Hard Mills, a subsidiary of the Board Mills, yesterday announced details of an £83m expansion to triple the capacity of its Wokingham Duplex Mill. The installation of a second mill and board machine, which is due for completion in late 1980, is being led by TBM's parent, United, but will attract government assistance. Last session, the House of Commons approved an £18m aid package for the expansion, which will create 250 jobs at the end of the year and a further 350 in the next year. The expansion is part of a larger programme to modernise the plant and board mill in Wokingham, which is one of the largest in the world. The expansion is being led by TBM's parent, United, but will attract government assistance. Last session, the House of Commons approved an £18m aid package for the expansion, which will create 250 jobs at the end of the year and a further 350 in the next year. The expansion is part of a larger programme to modernise the plant and board mill in Wokingham, which is one of the largest in the world.

Textile makers setting out to win bigger share of world markets

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Britain's textile and clothing industry is to increase its efforts to boost exports over the next 12 months as part of a five-point programme.

Dr Brian Smith, president of the British Textile Confederation, said yesterday that the organisation also planned to ensure through talks with the Government and the European Commission that the Tokyo Round of international trade negotiations provided Britain with growing opportunities in export markets.



Dr Smith: a careful watch on agreements.

In the BTC's annual report he said: "We are seeking to increase our export opportunities from the 1980s onwards, as the tariff cuts gradually take effect, both in major developed countries, such as the United States, with higher tariff barriers than our own, and in the more advanced developing countries such as South Korea and Brazil, which, while guaranteeing largely duty-free access to the EEC market, themselves shelter behind tariffs which are crippling high."

Dr Smith stressed that the BTC—an umbrella organisation which brings together both

enlargement of the Community and those for renewal of the Lomé Convention and with the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries.

Over the next 12 months, he explained, the confederation would also work for agreement within the Community textile industry and with the Commission on a strategic framework for the industry's future.

"In spite of its vicissitudes, the British textile industry remains among the strongest, most technically efficient and most innovative in the world. It has been slimmed down substantially by the force of events, and its firms and its workforce have proved they can cope successfully with competition on even terms from any source."

Commenting on the Community bilateral agreements with developing nations under the new Multi-Fibre Arrangements for trade in textiles, the BTC president said that it remained to be seen whether these agreements proved to be the turning point for the textile and clothing industries as had been claimed.

The agreements, however, would introduce a larger degree of fairness

Firms seek clarification of EEC borrowing plans

Industrial companies are seeking clarification of the European Commission's plans to raise borrowing limits of the EEC. The Commission's plan to increase the limit from £100m to £150m has caused concern among firms, particularly those in the steel and engineering sectors. They are worried that the increase might lead to a surge in borrowing, which could drive up interest rates and increase the cost of capital. The Commission has said that the increase is necessary to allow it to finance its operations more effectively, but firms are seeking more details on how the money will be used and how it will be repaid.

He also said that the Commission wanted detailed information on the corporation's investment plans and the reasons for them. It would also want to see the cash flow split into capital and current account on the lines recommended in the report of the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries.

The corporation, he continued, could not be allowed needlessly to splinter its investment funds to pay off its losses. Foreign entrepreneurs had expressed interest in buying some of the plants scheduled for closure. "It would be intolerable for steelworkers to lose their jobs simply because the Government had ideological objections to the companies prepared to save them," he added.

Business appointments

Mr C Needham deputy chairman of Coalite

Mr Charles Needham has been made deputy chairman of Coalite and Chemical Products and continues as group managing director and chief executive.

Mr D. Van B. Ord becomes chairman of Abercrom Investments in succession to Mr D. A. Lurie, who is resigning. Mr P. J. T. Herbert has been appointed deputy chairman and managing director.

Mr Leslie Wall and Sir Trevor Lloyd-Hughes become non-executive directors of Liverpool Daily Post and Echo.

The following have been appointed directors of the non-marine division of Lowndes Lambert Group: Mr A. Collison, Mr A. L. Deane, Mr R. M. Fisher, Mr C. G. Mitchell, Mr D. E. R. Moore, Mr F. C. Norton, Mr T. C. V. Packman and Mr J. R. Rothwell.

Mr Richard Copeman has been appointed a director of Eastern Counties Newspapers.

Dr A. W. Taylor, chairman, Tees & Hartlepool Port Authority, has been appointed chairman of the British Ports Association. Chairman of the National Association of Port Employers is Mr J. P. Davidson (deputy chairman and managing director, Clyde Port Authority).

Mr J. Sorbie, of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, has been appointed chief executive of the Export Credit Insurance Corporation. He succeeds Mr R. Martin.

Mr Camille A. Dagenais joins the board of Royal Bank of Canada.

Mr A. P. Propper, managing director of Facol and a director of the Cliff & Duffus Group, becomes chairman and chief executive of Facol. Mr F. W. Cromwell gives up the chairmanship of Facol but remains a director until June 30, when he will retire.

Urges better deal for junior and middle managers

Colin Brown, president of the Confederation of British Industry, would lobby any industrial party in its fight to get a better deal for junior and middle management, Mr John Borough, president of the CBI, said yesterday.

Speaking to a luncheon of the American Chamber of Commerce, he said: "The CBI, after consulting its grand council earlier this week, was looking for a change in the profile of the tax structure. It wanted an additional reduction of £900m in tax, £700m of which would come from a 2p cut in the standard rate of income tax, the remaining £200m from reductions in the higher rates."

Commenting on the contribution which North Sea oil would make to Britain's self-sufficiency in energy, Mr Greenborough gave a warning against seeing it as a panacea for all our economic ills.

The problems which had to be attacked were: to kill inflation, get the Government off industry's back, cut taxation and reduce public expenditure. Earlier he had reaffirmed

that the CBI wanted to see a significant part of the North Sea revenues being used to ease the tax burden.

The confederation is preparing what is expected to be a toughly worded letter to the Chancellor warning him that industry must have more tax concessions for those in the middle ranks if morale is not to ebb away completely.

BLUE CIRCLE GROUP



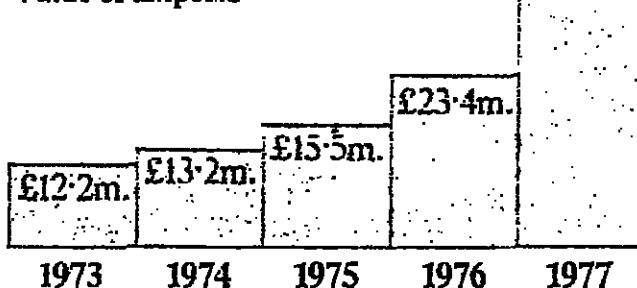
1978

THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT

The award has been granted for our success in three areas:

The export of cement, clinker and other products to 105 countries valued at £47.4m in 1977.

Value of Exports



Overseas earnings which provided over half the pre-tax profits.

The supervision of cement works construction contracts overseas, currently valued at over £300m, and the export of technical and management services including the procurement of plant and machinery.

Blue Circle's export achievement has been made possible by the consistent effort of all its employees in the United Kingdom and overseas.

The Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Limited

Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BJ

Pullman Kellogg



1978

We are pleased to announce that The Queen's Award for Export Achievement for 1978 has been conferred upon the Pullman Kellogg Division of Pullman Incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The Award has been given in recognition of our achievement in increasing our exports more than seven fold in three years.

We thank our clients in the petroleum and petrochemical industry for their confidence in our engineering skills and appreciate and acknowledge the efforts of all our staff in securing this honour.



Pullman Kellogg

Coal board makes small profit

By Roger Vielvoys
Britain's state-owned coal-mining industry made a small profit in the financial year which ended on March 31. But the miners' incentive scheme, which has boosted productivity in the pits since it was introduced, has had no significant effect on the National Coal Board's results.

Output in March was up by 9.5 per cent compared with March, 1977.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the NCB, told a press conference yesterday that the operating surplus covered interest payments of £90m and left a small net profit. In the previous year the board's interest payments were only £80m and the net profit was £27m.

The industry was facing another difficult year, he said. Its objective would be to pay its way and maintain the momentum for future plans to provide 170 million tons of productive capacity by the end of the century.

In the current year the NCB hoped to avoid another price increase. Sir Derek

said last year's financial results had been helped by the deferment of £7m interest charges on projects which would not yield any revenue until some time in the future.

Deferment of interest payments had been agreed with the auditors and was normal commercial practice for large capital projects.

Mr Norman Siddall, deputy chairman of the NCB, said 90 per cent of mineworkers were now included in the incentive scheme. During March, the scheme brought face workers an extra £21 a week on average while other workers were averaging an additional £10.

Productivity from deep mines had risen from an annual rate of 101 million tons in November, and in March the pits were producing at an annual rate of 109 million tons. Overall output for the year was 104.4 million tons—a 2 per cent drop on the previous year. Open-cast output rose by 18.6 per cent to 13.1 million tons.

Overall deep-mined productivity for the

year was slightly lower despite the big improvement in the last quarter, when there was a rise of 1.5 per cent compared with a drop of 2 per cent in the first nine months.

Output at the coalface had been most affected by the incentive scheme. In the final quarter there had been a 7 per cent rise on the same period of 1977.

Increased productivity and output would require larger markets for coal if the extra production was not to end up on the larger stockpiles, Sir Derek said. The industry hoped to sell an extra 5 million tons of coal this year.

Most of these additional sales would be to the electricity industry, but all other customers, with the exception of the British Steel Corporation, were expected to make a contribution.

NCB was sympathetic to the BSC's difficulties. In talks between the two state organizations, BSC said it hoped to take not less than the 9 million tons it bought from the NCB last year.

'Watchdog' warning to societies

Building societies which are not operating at the highest level of efficiency with an organizational structure "which will guarantee that what happened at Grays cannot happen again" should seek out, without delay, the most appropriate merger for their society.

This was the message yesterday from Mr Keith Brading, the Registrar of Friendly Societies, when he spoke to the Metropolitan Association of Building Societies about the events at the Grays Building Society where, after the death of the chairman before Easter, a deficiency of some £7m was disclosed.

Mr Brading, the building society movement's "watchdog", emphasized the responsibility of directors to satisfy both members and potential investors covered.

CONSUMER SPENDING

The following are the first estimated figures for consumer expenditure, seasonally adjusted at constant 1970 prices, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday:

	£m	Percentage change between years and annual rate of change over previous quarter at annual rate
1975	35,257	-1.0
1976	35,405	0.4
1977	35,062	-1.0
1978 Q1	8,829	8.6
Q2	8,797	-1.5
Q3	8,860	3.8
Q4	8,899	0.9
1977 Q1	8,758	-6.2
Q2	8,644	-5.1
Q3	8,831	8.9
Q4	8,800	3.2
1978 Q1	9,015	5.3

r revised
p provisional

Strike at Rover plant spreads to technicians

By R. W. Shakespeare

Technicians at British Leyland's Solihull plant in the Midlands have joined 400 foremen supervisors on strike over new working arrangements aimed at boosting production of Rover cars.

The foremen and supervisors walked out earlier this week and said they would refuse to provide cover for a system under which production workers would take staggered breaks in order to provide continuity.

The arrangements are aimed at raising output of Rover saloon cars to 1,800 a week.

Technicians who joined the stoppage yesterday are members of the same union, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs. The foremen and supervisors

have called on all members of the union throughout the Rover operation to support the strike.

Since the stoppage began production of Rover cars, Land Rovers and Range Rovers has been virtually stopped. However, some output was resumed yesterday at Solihull as the rest of the labour force responded to a management appeal that they report for work normally.

Leyland has said that the new working arrangements have been fully negotiated with the unions.

Sanctions end: Foremen at Leyland's car assembly plant at Cowley voted yesterday to end sanctions, including an overtime ban, imposed two weeks ago after hearing a report on two meetings earlier this week on a foreman's pay claim.

EEC chief reminds Japan of need to import more

Brussels, April 20.—Mr Toshio Doko, president of Keidanren, the Japanese confederation of industry, was reminded of the need for easing Japan's import market for manufactured products when he called on Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the EEC Commission, today.

A spokesman for Mr Jenkins reported that Mr Doko acknowledged such a need, replying that an improvement in the economic situation in Japan would be precondition for opening the Japanese market for more import goods.

Mr Jenkins's statement was in line with the Commission's policy to reduce its trade de-

ficit with Japan. The deficit was about \$5,100m (about £2,550m) in 1977.

Mr Jenkins also pointed to the importance of progress in the multilateral Trade Negotiations in the Tokyo Round, on reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers to international trade.

Japanese tariff cuts offered under the talks in Geneva had been termed insufficient by the EEC.

The current share, at 20 per cent, is seen as too low and the EEC wants this to go up to near 30 per cent.

EEC officials frequently point out that imports of manufactured products account for nearly 40 per cent of the EEC market.—AP-Dow Jones.

Research into criticism of job laws

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

The Government has commissioned an independent research programme in an effort to disprove business and political criticism of the impact on jobs of industrial relations legislation put on the statute book since Labour took office.

This move was disclosed to Scottish trade unionists by Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, after he had appeared for support from the TUC for an "agreed approach to inflation." He attacked the idea that unemployment would fall "if we were not burdened with so much employment legislation."

"If we were to believe a fraction of the industrial atrocity stories that are laid at the door of the Employment Protection Act and the Trade Union and Labour Relations Act they would go in industry as the greatest forces of social oppression since the Corn Laws."

Much of the campaign against the employment legislation, he argued, was being whipped up for political reasons—"though with what political end in mind is not so clear, unless a slump is seen as an opportunity to opportunity to reduce protection of workers' standards and trade rights."

But there was "no way" that the vast mass of working people would be denied their rights at work, whether they were employed by the score or the thousand. "It is high time that bodies like the Federation of Self Employed—which seems mainly to represent smaller employers—came to terms with that fact of life."

In brief

Budget's fiscal stance attacked

The Government's fiscal stance, as outlined in the Budget, is inappropriate at this stage of the business cycle, according to stockbrokers W. Greenwell.

In their latest monetary bulletin, the brokers argue that a time when there are signs of the business cycle turning upwards, the Government's fiscal stance should start to become less expansionary.

Instead, says Greenwell, the Government's fiscal stance is expansionary in a way not dissimilar to 1972/73.

The brokers do not expect the same dire consequences to occur as then, largely because of the developments since in monetary policy.

But they suggest that the new target ranges for monetary growth are too high.

UK paper industry attacks bureaucracy

British paper merchants are to attempt to join forces with related trade associations in an attempt to combat "relentless bureaucratic processes" which are threatening the industry.

Mr Michael King-Smith, president of the National Association of Paper Merchants, said that with such collaboration, a voice of significance would be produced "that any government must pay attention to its representations."

Earlier, at the association's annual meeting, Mr King-Smith urged members to give more support to the British paper manufacturing industry. The very survival of the manufacturers depended on the strength of the home market and without a strong industry "our position as distributors is seriously eroded."

Building orders rise

Orders in February worth £632m, according to provisional figures published yesterday by the Department of the Environment. At constant, seasonally adjusted prices, orders for the three months to February were 6 per cent up on the previous three months.

£11m mining orders

Rushton Bucyrus, the Lincoln crane and excavator manufacturing company, has won orders worth almost £11m for mining equipment. The National Coal Board has ordered four large walking draglines costing £8m, for use in open-cast mining, and Algeria has ordered seven mining shovels costing £2.6m.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case for establishing an Energy Council

From Mr Norman Jenkins

Sir, Letters in your issue for April 17 show how impossible it is to deal with any one aspect of energy without involving almost all the other variables. Mr Wansborough in business letters related the devolution of control in electricity generation to district heating produced as a by-product. In the conversion of fuels into energy two units of needed heat for every one of electricity is therefore twice as important; it is electricity which is properly considered the by-product.

In the halls of administrative power thinking has gone so far on these lines for consideration now to be given to so-called heat boards, competing with area gas and electricity authorities. Nothing could be more disastrous when what is needed is one overall energy authority to be responsible for determining priorities, deciding when and where district heating is feasible and economic, which fuel is to be used and, most essential, the price to be paid both by the producing authority and the ultimate heat user—not only in financial terms but in cost of depletion of reserves.

Devolution down to local municipalities, each responsible for its local energy centres producing heat and electricity

in a one-town-one-energy basis is essential. With acceptance of the Ploviden committee's proposals we lose the Electricity Council, hitherto making all our basic energy policy decisions on the mistaken assumption electricity was of primary importance. We now have the opportunity to establish an executive Energy Council in its place.

The letter elsewhere in the issue, from Lord Kingsdale, pointing to an increasingly severe winter cycle, brings in the question of carbon dioxide from power stations creating a greenhouse effect which must raise terrestrial temperatures—on this evidence desirable, not reprehensible. The proliferation of district heating from combined heat and power stations implies coal burning and increased carbon dioxide. The decision to discourage or encourage such proliferation is a purely technical one, not for a single energy industry, not even for an almost wholly non-technical government. What better body than an impartial Energy Council?

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN JENKINS,
Whitehall,
Ewshot,
Farnham,
Surrey GU10 5BS.
April 18.

HP stimulus for sales of British goods

From Mr Patrick O'Loughlin
Sir, Mr Callaghan, who rightly had shown no sign for import controls because his fears that the economy, so heavily dependent on exports, could be damaged in a trade war, is now going to help the balance of payments by having British goods made in Britain, because any money generated by Budget will be no good if that money is used to keep goods in.

His words of course, quite sure that most of the extra money going to British goods by having tight hire purchase restrictions on consumer durables and regularly on British imports.

Relaxation of the hire purchase controls on British goods, but surely something will have to be done along these lines to be prepared to introduce quotas I do suggest that ing British goods under a will help the balance of payments and the sorry situation that such measures were not announced in Budget proposals. But it is too late to introduce such measures now.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK O'LOUGHLIN,
15B Hereford Drive,
Taunton,
Somerset.
April 18, 1978.

Risks house buyers take by doing their own conveyancing work

From Mr Gerald Sanctuary

Sir, In *The Times* of April 8, you published an article describing how Mr & Mrs Walker did their own conveyancing work. There is nothing to prevent people from doing this, but they should realize the risks that they are taking. They are buying what is almost certainly the most valuable property they will ever own, and need to be absolutely certain that it will belong to them, without interference.

How can people who do this be sure they have made no mistake? In some cases, of course, no difficulties arise on a title. In others, a problem may exist which the unqualified conveyancer may not spot at all, or fail to appreciate until after he has signed a legally binding contract. Your article says that "all the solicitor does is to send out prepared questionnaires to the seller and to the local council" when making searches, but this is simply not so. He has a responsibility to check on the

matters raised in these searches, certainly, and to advise his client on the legal implications of what he finds, but he does far more than this.

A solicitor gives independent advice to his client on all aspects of his sale or purchase, including the legal title. He takes responsibility for this advice, and can be sued if he makes a mistake. He puts his client's interests before his own. He has a wealth of experience in dealing with property transfers, mortgages, taxation, and a chain of conveyancing transactions. When problems arise on any aspect of the transaction, he can explain them to his client, and give advice.

It is certainly cheaper to do your own conveyancing, provided you get it right. It is safer to obtain professional advice and help.

Yours truly,
GERALD SANCTUARY,
The Law Society,
113 Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1PL.
April 11.

Oil reserves

From Mr Guy H. Rapson
Sir, I agree with Lord Williams (April 12) and Melias (April 18), but would like to qualify their assumption that the way to pay for oil reserves of some countries is necessarily by holding oil reserves of oil.

Oil is a strong candidate for storage as a reserve essential to our economy, readily available at any time there will be a shortage in the predictable future. Ample storage space is a free of charge, under North Sea.

Any consideration of valuable proposals made by your two correspondents should therefore examine, as another application of the principle, the possibility that some of our North Sea reserves should deliberately be left unexploited.

Yours faithfully,
GUY H. RAPSON,
17 Garden Royal,
London SW15 3BB.
April 18, 1978.

The East Asiatic Company Limited, Copenhagen

Annual Report

1977

The past year saw no appreciable improvement in world trade, and Western Europe in particular has to contend with widespread economic stagnation and the accompanying unpleasant effects, of which large scale unemployment presents one of the most serious problems.

Regrettably it must be foreseen that these adverse conditions will persist for some considerable time necessitating long-term corrective measures, and it is to be hoped that business and industry in Western Europe may be accorded working conditions which will enable them to cope with this demanding task.

To the difficult world trade conditions facing international business must be added the upsetting and often unpredictable fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

The Company's accounts for 1977 have inevitably been affected by these unfavourable conditions, but thanks to our global operations, and notably the Group's overseas activities, a reasonable overall result has been achieved.

The Group turnover increased from kr. 20,000 million in 1976 to kr. 23,100 million in 1977. Due to keener international competition and narrow profit margins this progress, however, was not reflected in earnings, although the rise in turnover was achieved with a more or less unchanged number of employees.

The Group accounts show a net profit before taxation of kr. 337.6 million against kr. 484.1 million in 1976. Corporation taxes amount to kr. 173.8 million against kr. 214.8 million in 1976.

The Parent Company's result for 1977 was a net profit of kr. 107 million, against kr. 109.8 million in 1976, after allocation of a kr. 10 million to the Special Contingency Fund, and after an extraordinary capital contribution of kr. 13.2 million to the Danish Pension Insurance Corporation in connection with a change made in the pension scheme for Company employees. The result is arrived at after providing kr. 105.4 million for depreciation of ships, buildings etc. and kr. 52.4 million for corporation taxes.

With the addition of kr. 41.9 million brought forward from last year, the amount at disposal is kr. 148.9 million. The allocation of this amount, proposed in the Profit and Loss Statement, includes a dividend of 12 per cent of the share capital of kr. 500 million, equal to a total amount of kr. 60 million.

To provide capital for the continued growth of our Company the Board of Directors will recommend to the shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting that the present share capital of the Company of kr. 500 million be increased by kr. 265 million to kr. 765 million. Shareholders will be entitled to subscribe kr. 125 million new shares in the ratio of 1:4 at a price of 105 per cent. Furthermore, bonus shares—also to the extent of kr. 125 million—will be issued to shareholders in the ratio of 1:4. Finally, the Board will recommend that employees of the Company be afforded the opportunity to subscribe new shares to the amount of kr. 15 million at a price of 105 per cent. All the new shares will qualify for full dividend for the year 1978 on a par with old shares. The new subscription is intended to take place from 20th April to 11th May 1978.

Likewise, The East Asiatic Company's Holding Co. Ltd. proposes to increase its share capital from kr. 140 million to kr. 210 million through subscription of kr. 35 million shares at 105 per cent and through the issue of bonus shares to the amount of kr. 35 million. It is intended that the new subscription for that company takes place in the course of the month of June 1978.

GROUP PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 1977

	1977 (1,000 kr)	1976 (1,000 kr)
Turnover	23,119,687	20,049,829
External turnover	18,549,002	15,198,210
Internal turnover	4,570,685	4,851,619
	23,119,687	20,049,829
Result of Activities		
Turnover and result of activities derived from:	External turnover	
Shipping	1,676,146	220,705
Trade	9,990,524	398,495
Industry	6,177,778	802,622
Forest and plantation Industry	658,854	120,820
Miscellaneous Income	45,700	37,228
	18,549,002	1,379,870
Dividend on investments outside the Group	21,570	17,467
Administration expenses	1,401,440	1,395,234
Profit before Depreciation	410,574	998,190
Depreciation on fixed assets	990,866	978,104
Profit before Financing Expenses	300,519	58,086
Financing expenses	690,347	711,079
	307,369	260,579
Extraordinary expenses and income	382,578	450,800
Profit before Taxation	45,358	38,627
Corporation tax	337,620	484,127
Group Result for the Year	173,800	214,761
	163,820	269,368
Minority shareholders' share in the results of subsidiary companies	63,422	109,718
The East Asiatic Company, Limited's share in the Group Result	100,398	180,248

Head Office: 2, Holbergsgade, DK-1099 Copenhagen K., Denmark

Kenneth Owen, Technology Correspondent

New waves of energy

John Mowlem and Company Limited



N.V. KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSCHE
PETROLEUM MAATSCHAPPIJ

Established at The Hague, The Netherlands

(Royal Dutch)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

to be held on 18th May, 1978, at 11 a.m. in the "Nederlands Congresgebouw", 10 Churchillplein, The Hague, The Netherlands.

AGENDA:

1. Annual Report for 1977.
2. Finalization of the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account together with the Notes thereto for 1977 and declaration of the dividend for 1977.
3. Appointment of two members of the Supervisory Board.
4. Appointment of a member of the Supervisory Board owing to retirement by rotation.

This agenda and the documents pertaining thereto are available for inspection and may be obtained by shareholders free of charge at the Company's office, 30 Carrel van Bylandtlaan, The Hague, and at the head offices of the banks mentioned below. The nominations for the appointments referred to under the items 3 and 4 are available for inspection by shareholders at the Company's office.

A. Holders of share certificates to bearer may — either in person or by proxy — attend and address the meeting and exercise voting rights if their share certificates, or evidence that their certificates are held in open custody by De Nederlandse Bank N.V., are deposited against receipt not later than 12th May, 1978, at one of the banks mentioned below, viz:

In The Netherlands
Algemene Bank Nederland N.V.; Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank N.V.; Bank Mees & Hope N.V.; Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas N.V.; Kas-Associatie N.V.; Pierson, Holding & Pierson N.V.; Van der Hoop, Offers & Zoon N.V.

In Austria
Creditanstalt-Bankverein, Vienna; Österreichische Länderbank AG, Vienna; Schoeller & Co., Vienna.

In Belgium
Société Générale de Banque S.A., Brussels; Crédit Lyonnais, Brussels; Kredietbank N.V., Brussels.

In France
Lazard Frères & Cie, Paris.

In Germany
Deutsche Bank AG, Frankfurt/Main; Düsseldorf, Hamburg or Munich; Berliner Disconto Bank AG, Berlin; Bank für Handel und Industrie AG, Berlin; Dresdner Bank AG, Frankfurt/Main; Düsseldorf, Hamburg, Munich or Saarbrücken; Saarländische Kreditbank AG, Saarbrücken.

In Luxembourg
Banque Internationale à Luxembourg S.A., Luxembourg.

In Switzerland
Schweizerische Kreditanstalt, Zürich; Schweizerischer Bankverein, Basel; Schweizerische Bankgesellschaft, Zürich; Bank Leu AG, Zürich; Pictet & Cie, Geneva.

In the United Kingdom
N.M. Rothschild & Sons Limited, London.

In the United States of America
The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., New York.

B. Holders of registered shares may — either in person or by proxy — attend the meeting and exercise the aforementioned rights if they make known to the Company in writing not later than 11th May, 1978, their desire to do so:

with respect to shares of The Hague Registry:
at the Company's office at The Hague;
with respect to shares of Amsterdam Registry:
at the office of Algemene Bank Nederland N.V., C.K.E., P.O. Box 2230, Brede;
with respect to shares of New York Registry:
at the office of The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., New York.

The Hague, 21st April, 1978

The Supervisory Board

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Sterling slide takes its toll

Growing concern about the weakness of the pound giving rise to a fresh wave of speculation that interest rates may start to rise again in the near future sent both gilt-edged and equity prices sharply lower.

News that the long "tap" had quickly run out brought a brief spell of enthusiasm but it was not sustained and not even strong opening on Wall Street was enough to stop the daylong slide. By the close the FT Index was 6.8 lower at 454.8, its lowest level of the day.

Dealers are concerned that the recent fall in the value of sterling has not prompted a corresponding demand for the major exporting companies, in effect most of the "blue chips". With institutional liquidity building up many feel that the London market may "do a Wall Street" fairly soon and that when it does this situation will be rectified.

Though not entirely unexpected, Turner & Newall's E32m rights issue and gloomy outlook had the shares slumping 13p to 173p after touching a "bottom" of 170p. Most felt that this fall accounted for at least one point off the index.

A return to dividends next year is expected to be announced by Ultramar at its meeting in three weeks' time. At a James Capel lunch this week the group told institutions it had arranged a new \$75m loan to replace an existing facility restricting dividends, which have been placed by scrips for a number of years. Returns from Indonesian gas are another factor in this and the shares have jumped 20p to 245p this week.

Gilts closed at their worst levels of the day, up to half a point lower, in front of two possible new "tap" stocks today.

The long Exchequer 10½ per cent 1995 was sold out yesterday within 10 minutes of the opening at a price of 87. It is thought by some dealers that the Government Broker stopped at this level and that the "tap" was not completely exhausted. Elsewhere in the market remained steady throughout the morning but drifted easier in the afternoon to close about 50p down on the day.

Shorts also had a dull day with little activity before lunch. However, a few fairly large sellers came into the market in the early afternoon and most stocks closed on the bottom with losses of up to three eighths.

The new traded options market, which comes into being

this morning, is expected to get off to a slow start. Dealers anticipate that investors will wait to see how the system operates before venturing their capital.

Among the leading industrial shares lost 4p to 95p after news that an aircraft landing system contract which the company had high hopes of winning had gone to America. But many dealers felt that the reaction was rather overdone as Plessey stands to gain valuable work from "spin off" contracts.

News that Glaxo is to market in this country a new "wonder drug" with a wide range of uses came too late to help the shares which slipped 8p to 52p. But dealers think there may not be too much in the news for the share price as the drug has already been marketed in West Germany and Italy.

ICI dipped 5p to 337p showing no resistance to the market trend after the previous day's meeting while Dunlop held up comparatively well, losing just a penny to 79p after figures which were in line with most expectations and much better than some had feared. The one complaint was a lack of information about the tyre business in Europe which has had a less than happy time.

The one "blue chip" which did not move was Unilever at 498p. This was rather surprising on a day which saw a Price Commission report on animal feedstuffs, an area in which the group has a marginal interest. The report made references to the possibility of price fixing

in the industry and against this background both Pauls & Whites 4p to 118p and Bibby 2p to 221p lost ground. News that the United States is to auction 300,000 tons of gold every month for the next six months at least helped the dollar to go better but put a downward pressure on gold shares.

Anglo American at 303p, Consolidated Goldfields at 164p and De Beers Midas 32p lost up to 7p while West End at £168 and Free State Geduld at £144 also drifted easier. Of the marginals Libram lost 36p to 424p, Kloof went 23p easier to 428p and Harmony slipped 20p to 271p.

Insurance shares also went easier. Leslie & Godwin returned from suspension 3p down at 90p following news that the American offer had been vetoed while Matthews-Wrightson lost 5p to 185p and C. & Heath at 258p and C. T. Bowring were a penny or two easier. Against the trend Alexander Howden at 167p and Sedgwick Forbes at 380p marked time on the day.

Of the composites General Accident at 206p, Phoenix at 245p and Guardian Royal at 215p slipped 2p and Prudential at 141p and Royal at 357p went 3p easier.

Of the bid stocks, the formal offer document for 90p added 2p to the shares at 115p while Midland Loughborough lost 1p to 71p. Another West of Scotland group, Dawson International, continued its upward climb adding 6p to 118p on speculation of a bid. Market chatter of a takeover on the way for Chubb added

4p to the equity at 135p while De La Rue, the speculated takeover slipped 5p to 260p. "Bear" closing on Cavendish Holdings caught the jobs short of stock and the shares added 5p to 125p while Heywood Williams, a recent firm stock, eased back a half penny to 89p.

Hampton Gold continued to shoot ahead adding 12p to 124p after news of CCP's 17 per cent stake which started the bid hopes while another stock thought to have bid potential, Sotheby Parke Bernet, climbed 7p to 254p.

Recovery at Lindsay & Williams continued. The cable cover, and the dividend last year, returned to the dividend last year, in 1976, and a share soon report 1977 profits of around £150,000 against less than £50,000. The group paid a net dividend of 1p for 1976, after a 30p in 1974. The shares are 40p.

Strong profits and a scrip dividend added 1p to the shares at 185p while another to benefit from trading news was erwin takeovers stock, Martonair, which jumped 13p to 160p.

Equity turnover on April 19 was £68.73m (14,301 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were: Marks & Spencer, ICI, GEC, Barclays Bank, BP, Beecham, Plessey, Burmah Oil, Shell, Grand Metropolitan, Woolworth and Dawson International.

Latest results

Company	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Int or Fin	1.07 (1.74)	0.10 (0.15)	1.07 (1.74)	2.64 (3.1)	26/5	2.96 (3.1)
Clym (Edgds) (F)	10.19 (8.01)	0.90 (0.8)	10.19 (8.01)	3.19 (2.46)	26/5	3.19 (2.46)
Clive Discount	2.11 (1.34)	0.25 (0.13)	2.11 (1.34)	2.77 (3.16)	26/5	2.77 (3.16)
Coral Leisure (F)	217 (161)	18.54 (10.12)	17.94 (11.56)	3.25 (3.0)	11/7	6.0 (4.0)
James Cream	10.89 (8.36)	0.65 (0.50)	8.42 (6.77)	3.08 (2.74)	11/7	3.08 (2.74)
Dunlop Holdings (F)	1.86 (1.01)	0.10 (0.05)	1.86 (1.01)	1.85 (1.0)	5/7	3.35 (3.0)
Gen Scot Int (F)	0.71 (0.56)	0.06 (0.13)	0.71 (0.56)	4.67 (4.22)	4/7	6.46 (6.01)
Hawker Maris (F)	3.43 (3.17)	0.26 (0.40)	2.5 (2.4)	4.14 (3.85)	4/7	6.26 (5.60)
Restalt (F)	57.05 (53.43)	0.40 (0.33)	13.35 (11.22)	1.51 (1.29)	1/7	2.21 (1.5)
Joseph Bolt (F)	3.38 (2.78)	0.44 (0.40)	48.94 (44.22)	26.0 (19.81)	1/7	33.0 (24.33)
Holyday Ribb (F)	0.43 (0.40)	0.11 (0.10)	9.99 (4.55)	5.94 (4.21)	1/7	7.26 (4.55)
Hinking (Bell) (F)	0.12 (0.13)	0.03 (0.04)	0.12 (0.13)	0.75 (0.1)	1/7	—
Intermar Prop (F)	0.91 (5.77)	0.37 (0.4)	20.9 (20.5)	4.37 (3.26)	3/7	7.37 (5.58)
Swalby (F)	287.7 (251.4)	6.56 (5.22)	14.5 (12.0)	2.42 (2.17)	2/8	4.06 (3.65)
Lead Ind. (F)	287.7 (251.4)	6.56 (5.22)	14.5 (12.0)	3.18 (2.9)	2/8	4.47 (4.06)
Leadbull St (F)	14.52 (13.97)	2.7 (1.5)	74.48 (70.13)	2.08 (1.4)	19/5	1.75 (1.59)
Le Valleyne Int (F)	14.5 (11.9)	6.12 (4.25)	20.59 (15.27)	5.0 (3.2)	1/7	6.5 (3.2)
Martemair (I)	14.5 (11.9)	6.12 (4.25)	20.59 (15.27)	2.23 (2.00)	1/7	2.85 (2.55)
J. Mowlem (F)	145.5 (120.2)	2.25 (1.17)	10.03 (9.96)	6.26 (4.86)	22/6	3.30 (3.0)
Orson Owen (F)	86.71 (85.37)	2.7 (1.5)	62.5 (58.5)	—	19/5	14.00 (12.72)
Harold Perry (F)	67.3 (51.5)	0.20 (0.06)	4.31 (4.35)	2.1 (2.1)	30/6	1.1 (0.9)
Scot Mortgage	3.75 (3.61)	208.44 (65.62)	9.63 (10.8)	3.00 (2.75)	1/8	5.83 (5.28)
Procor (UK) (F)	3.75 (3.61)	208.44 (65.62)	9.63 (10.8)	1.1 (0.9)	3/7	2.49 (2.23)
Selection Trust (F)	201.44 (134.0)	0.22 (0.25)	1.53 (1.14)	3.98 (3.42)	1/8	5.83 (5.28)
Viking Reascs (F)	19.9 (15.8)	1.75 (1.73)	25.62 (31.47)	1.25 (1.01)	3/7	2.49 (2.23)
Watkin (F)	19.9 (15.8)	1.75 (1.73)	25.62 (31.47)	—	—	—
Wilson (Only) (F)	17.24 (12.21)	2.65 (1.84)	25.62 (31.47)	—	—	—

Dividends in the table are shown in pence per share. Dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.15. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. A for 9 months. B for 17 months. C Loss. D Net Profit.

Release of oil for prime uses urge Shell T'nsps £1m

By Christopher Williams
Mr. Michael Pocock, chief of "Shell T'nsports", has added his voice to the first urging the use of other sources than oil for the "load" use such as electricity.

In his annual report on the use of oil for special purposes and advantages which are suitable for transport, power and for chemical uses, he suggests that and nuclear energy should be primarily looked to for load uses.

"If we can achieve this, it is no reason why there will be sufficient oil for the purposes of the next century," he says. However, that does not mean, however, that sources of energy are developed now if they are ready when they are required and so release their prime uses.

The Royal Dutch accounts reveal that the increased use of nuclear energy in the investment of £222m last year. One of the investments of £222m was in the construction of a new chemical plant, which will produce 100,000 tons of ethylene per annum.

Meanwhile, Esso accounts, reveals that spending last year £34m, including North-western, in addition to the £34m in the oilfield of 1934m, and the financing required exceeds funds generated internally and is largely covered by loans outside the United Kingdom.

Clive Discount jumps 60pc

With its March year-end, Clive Discount has less than those houses with a year-end. After tax, it profits up to 60 per cent £2.12m are much less than those at Clive Discount, but at a 12 per cent profit, it is 125 per cent more than those at Clive Discount. With only one year-end, it is 125 per cent more than those at Clive Discount. With only one year-end, it is 125 per cent more than those at Clive Discount.

"Building on sure foundations"

Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Ronald Taylor

Twelve months ago my predecessor, Julian Faber, reported an especially favourable year, a substantial cause being the decline in sterling. 1977 saw a sustained recovery in our currency and this has reduced the flow of abnormal profits. Nevertheless, pre-tax profits show a solid increase of almost 20% over those for 1976—£19.56 millions compared with £16.32 millions.

The last three years have been a period of great change for the Company. In 1975 we opened our Ipswich Country Head Office and closed our Southend offices in consequence. In 1976 we became a quoted Company. In 1977 we moved from Leadenhall Street to Trinity Square. Much management time has been spent and substantial expenses incurred.

Better Service

Already we feel the benefit of better service and increased productivity at Ipswich and we are starting to gain the advantages of the move to Trinity Square. In the short term, the very large expenditures due to these changes are a significant drag on profits; in the longer term, ownership of two such freeholds will be greatly to our advantage.

During these changes we have deliberately delayed further necessary improvements in our systems which are now being undertaken at heavy cost, to be spread over 1978 and 1979. Such expenditure is needed to give the best and speediest service to our Clients and the Market. We expect this to be the last of a series of planned steps to take us into the 1980s in the most competitive and efficient stance.

Our emphasis, past, present and future is on quality. First class service is expensive. Our self-imposed standards as to the quality of Markets we use for placing business have, at times, cost us apparently profitable opportunities. The Market has not been

severely tested since the mid-60s. The consequences of a major disaster, such as an earthquake or hurricane in a heavily developed area, could affect international markets particularly at a time of economic recession. Reliance on the best security has never been more important.

Morgan Grenfell

Our Associated Companies have produced 22 per cent of our profits at £4.33 millions. The performance of Morgan Grenfell was most gratifying and our Associated Companies in South Africa, Australia and Canada increased their contribution. However we do not expect increases from these sources in the current year.

During 1977 Associated Companies in France, Iran and Dubai were established. We opened a subsidiary in Hong Kong and a Representative Office in Saudi Arabia.

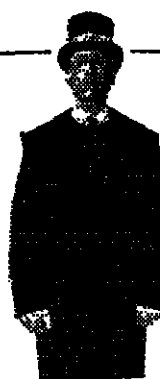
The Future

Julian Faber became Chairman in 1972 and under his leadership the pace has been fast. In 1978 we are at the stage of consolidating our gains. Already we are planning our next advance. We have the most loyal and devoted staff, not least in Ipswich where frequent change, due to systems improvements, could be unsettling but instead seems to be viewed as a fresh challenge.

The outlook for the current year is less promising than for several years past. World trade is sluggish and this has a particular impact on Marine insurance upon which we have a significant dependence. Interest rates generally are lower and we have the substantial extra expenses on premises and Systems Development to which I have already referred. For these reasons we do not anticipate the growth in profits of the last few years but we are building on sure foundations without the distractions recently attendant upon our efforts.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1977	1976
Profit before tax	£19.6m	£16.3m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£9.4m	£7.2m
Earnings per share	21.85p	18.83p
Dividends per Ordinary Share (1976 implied equivalent)	9.0p	7.5p
Net tangible assets	£34.6m	£28.9m



Willis Faber Limited

Ten Trinity Square, London EC3P 3AX

Copies of the Report and Accounts for 1977 are available from the Secretary.

1977. A CONSTRUCTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR FRIENDS' PROVIDENT.

Highlights from the Statement by Edwin W. Phillips, MBE, Chairman of Friends' Provident Life Office

UNITED KINGDOM AND REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

New Business Results

Our marketing strategy resulted in a 64% increase in new premiums from sales of new individual life, pensions and permanent health insurance policies.

Income from sales of ordinary life assurances rose by 39%, whilst that from sales of individual pension policies to self-employed persons, directors and executives increased by 154%.

Due to the adverse economic climate in the United Kingdom at the beginning of 1977 production of new business started slowly. However the impetus increased as the year progressed and I am glad to say that the high levels of production achieved in the latter months of 1977 are continuing in the current year.

Terminal Bonus

The substantial improvements in the capital value of the investments of the Office enabled us to increase the rate of terminal bonus on United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland life assurance policies from 20% to 25% from 1st January, 1978. Friends' Provident Managed Pension Funds Limited

In response to growing interest we have established this company, primarily to provide an investment service for our larger pension scheme clients.

Our highly successful record in the management of investment funds is evidenced by the results of our Unit Trust which, since it was established, has outperformed the Financial Times All Share Index by a substantial margin, and by our outstanding record of bonuses paid to with-profit policyholders.

In the short time the Company has been operating it has aroused considerable interest.

Computerised Systems

The ultimate objective of having a fully integrated real-time computer system to deal with the administration of our ordinary life and permanent health insurance business in Head Office and the Branches is now in sight. By the end of the year GLADIS, will almost certainly be the most advanced life assurance computer system in Europe.

OVERSEAS

Australia

The amalgamation of the Life Assurance Fund of the Equitable Life and General Insurance Company Limited with our own has considerably strengthened our organisation, placing it in the first ten in Australia.

Canada

In Canada our subsidiary, Fidelity Life Assurance Company, had a very successful year resulting in a substantial contribution to surplus.

INVESTMENT

1977 was a year of steady increase in investment values. We had high categories in our investment portfolio and as a result the Reserve shown in the balance sheet has risen from £5.4m to £16.3m.

A major event in the year was the acquisition of The Land and House Property Corporation Limited. It is already clear that the timing of the acquisition was most opportune.

During the year we made net investments of £47m in the U.K., including the acquisition of Land and House, to show an initial yield of 13.3%. Fixed interest investment absorbed £24.5m, of which £3.5m arose from net mortgage repayments. Net additions to the ordinary share portfolio amounted to £1m and direct investment in property £1.6m. The yield increased from 10.18% to 10.38% on a fund which rose from £506m to £594m.

There is, as yet, no sign of the much needed improvement in industrial production in the U.K. However, the lowering trend of the rate of inflation gives cause for some optimism. If this is continued and the psychology of ever increasing rates of inflation purged from the system, we will have lower long-term rates of interest which will provide not only a firmer base for equity and property prices, but the incentive for capital investment from which rising industrial production will come. With continuing balances of payment surpluses arising from North Sea Oil, we will thus have the opportunity for the real economic growth which has eluded us for so many years past.

Copies of the full Statement and Report and Accounts for 1977 may be obtained from the Secretary at the address below.



FRIENDS' PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE

HEAD OFFICE AT POXHAM END, DORKING, SURREY RH4 1QA

FINANCIAL NEWS

Perry
one-for-one
er
pping £1m

May
of 75 per cent in pre-
takes the Harold
group to a record
for 1977 and the first
of 1978 has already
reached £1.1m against
£1.0m. The board proposes
a one-for-one scrip issue as
a rise in dividend from
8.15p to 10.15p. After
the policy on deferred
taxes, the group's earnings
have risen from an
£1.0m to £1.1m.
Shares jumped 12p to an
£1.1m to a yield
of 4.5 per cent and a 2.92
times going up 30 per
cent. The Ford main
margin has improved
more than a full point to
10.15p, a rise similar to
the 10.15p of G. International
in the week.

Trioxide's problems ironed out
benefits elsewhere at Leads Inds

By Ray Maughan

Profitability at Lead Industries Group has once again been materially affected by the contribution from its 43.6 per cent-owned associate, Trioxide. In vivid contrast to the experience of the previous year, Trioxide's problems served to iron out the benefits of a strong upturn in LIG's wholly-owned subsidiaries and pre-tax profits for 1977 climbed by less than £400,000 to £20.9m.

Trioxide, which is now 50 per cent controlled after the purchase of Federated Chemicals' stake last February, chipped in only £4.2m against £8.2m although an improvement from the Dulux associates in Australia and New Zealand and Valentine Varnish in the United Kingdom helped to soften the blow and the overall contribution from associates slipped £10.62m to £7.04m.

Boosted by an upturn in the United Kingdom die-casting, paint and ceramics operations, United Kingdom profits jumped



Mr Ian Butler, chairman of Lead Industries.

45 per cent while, after the effects of translating profits at the higher year end sterling parity, the contribution from overseas subsidiaries advanced by a fifth. Further increases are ex-

pected from these sources in 1978 but India and Italy may well be flat and overall growth could be more difficult if metal prices remain at last year's levels. Much clearly depends on Trioxide which "has indicated only marginal signs of recovery from the unprofitable period in the second half of 1977". Thus the board warn that "little profit must be expected for the first six months of 1978", particularly since the group is not very optimistic about the likely performance this time from Dulux Australia and New Zealand.

The position could alter radically within the next few months given the impact that even a slight shift in the supply-demand position would have on Trioxide's profits but it is hard to assume much improvement on last year's stated earnings of £4.15p per share.

The shares, unchanged yesterday at 138p, are on a p/e ratio of 5.7 per cent and yielding 8.1 per cent on the 11.17p a share total dividend.

Casino boost
helps Coral
easily beat
forecast

By Brian Appleyard

Coral Leisure Group has exceeded by £500,000 the profits forecast made at the beginning of the successful bid for Pontin's. Profits for 1977 were £18.5m against £10.1m the year before on turnover up from £161m to £217m.

Wealthy visitors to London provided much of the growth by boosting profits in the casino division from £5.9m to £11.5m. Bingo advanced from £723,000 to £1.2m. Bookmaking was held back by higher overheads but profits still advanced from £3.5m to £3.9m. Centre Hotels in its first nine months as part of the group turned in £3.9m and greyhounds rose from £72,000 to £250,000. Other activities provided £1.4m against £1.1m.

Current trading is said to be satisfactory though the seasonal nature of Pontin's trade will significantly weight group results to the second half from now on.

After the £17.4m cash element of the new £50m acquisition group total borrowings will rise to around £40m, about 60 per cent of shareholders' funds. Borrowings are currently being restructured towards medium term debt.

Gross dividends for the year are 9.1p, giving the shares at 112p a yield of 8.1 per cent.

Following these figures market estimates for this year's figures, taking in Pontin's, are now running around £31m.

TI continues
trading policy

Tube Investments intends to continue to change the mix of its business towards higher added value products, Mr Brian Kellert, chairman, says in his annual report.

Many of its products are steel based and more stable markets and better opportunities are available in areas where design, performance and quality matter as much as price.

During 1977 profits rose from £49m to £55.2m before tax, which he says, is inadequate when inflation is taken into account. However, results by division shows a significant improvement in all except steel tube, cycle and overseas.

Gilt activity reflected
in Seltrust turnover

By Michael Prest

Selection Trust, the mining finance house, has again been heavily engaged in the gilt market. Over £70m of the group's £201m turnover for the nine months to December 31, 1977, came from realizing Government securities.

Operating profits were £16.9m, which, adjusted for comparison with operating profits of £17.8m for the whole year to March 31, 1977, was an increase of 17 per cent. Adjusted turnover, however, was up 86 per cent.

Earnings from the Heerema group contributed operating profits of £6.53m against £4.15m for the whole previous year. But the big rise is misleading because a change in the terms of the charter of the Thor craneship.

An idea of the value of this addition may be gained from the fact that profits from Heerema are expected to be roughly the same in 1978 as in the last full financial year.

Natural gas from Block K/13 in the North Sea brought in £2.04m, rather better than the £1.77m for the full year. Receipts from gas are in Dutch

guilders. In the nine months Selection Trust made £247,000 on currency movements.

But there were setbacks at the base metal producers. The South East copper, silver and zinc mine in Canada and the Spargoville nickel mine in Australia both made losses, attributed mainly to low metal prices. At the same time, an end to labour problems at the Mount Newman iron ore mine in Australia pushed up profits to £2.51m, slightly ahead of the last full year.

Mining

Earnings a share are considerably better on a pro rata basis at 32.8p. The number of issued shares has been amended to take account of last year's acquisition of Kleeman. Total dividends for the nine months are 14p, compared with 16.7p for the last full financial year. Although the payout is very close to the maximum allowed for the shorter period, the shares closed 1p down at 307p.

Fall in gold price at Anglo
American mines in quarter

Most of the mines in the Anglo American group experienced a fall in the price received for their gold, in the first quarter of this year.

Interim dividends, however, were mainly much better than in the second-half of 1977.

At the President Steyn mine, for example, the gold price fell from \$177 to \$170 while dividends were raised by 20 cents to 30 cents. But President Brand, which underwent the sharpest fall in the gold price—from \$178.5 to \$170—also suffered a slight decline in dividends from 70 cents to 65 cents.

Other dividends were 25 cents at Welkom compared with 7.5 with Western Holdings paying 190 cents against 140, and Free State Geduld giving shareholders 130 cents instead of 90 cents in the comparable six months of last year. Free State Saaiplaas only pays dividends yearly in October.

The biggest producer was Vaal Reefs, from which 16,265 ounces of gold were extracted. The yield at this mine was 8.6 grammes of gold per ton of ore milled. Western Deep Levels yielded more by producing 14.6 grammes per ton, giving a mined gold total of 11,177 grammes.

As a result of the generally lower gold price received, working profits from gold were also down. Vaal Reefs, one of the major earners, had working profits of £25.4m (£15.9m), compared with £29m in the last quarter.

These results must raise questions about whether profits will be lower again in the current quarter, a trend which could be reinforced by the United States plans to auction gold, and some mining analysts see investors switching away from gold shares to the physical metal.

Surcharges
on sales to
go on says
De Beers

Diamond prices in the opening months of 1978 reached a level "which must be regarded as unhealthy and unsound", Mr Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers, said in his annual statement for 1977. High stocks of stones in cutting centres, where they were commanding premiums of 50 per cent or more above Central Selling Organization prices, had to be reduced and prices adjusted to match retail demand, he commented.

To achieve these ends, Mr Oppenheimer added, the CSO, which has a near world monopoly in the marketing of rough diamonds, will continue with the policy of placing surcharges on its normal prices to induce holders of stones in the cutting centres to release stocks. The first such surcharge was the 40 per cent surcharge put on sales at the London "sight" (sale) in March. Surcharges judged appropriate will go on until "a reasonable relationship has been restored between the market price of rough diamonds and the price of polished diamonds at the retail level".

Commenting on De Beers' net attributable profits of £623m (£388.4m), more than double those of 1976, Mr Oppenheimer said that 22 per cent of net profits came from Consolidated Diamond Mines, its wholly-owned subsidiary in Namibia. Production from CDM rose 18 per cent last year to just over 2m carats.

Total diamond production was up 12 per cent over 1976 at 11.8m carats.

Inco breakthrough

A breakthrough in underwater mining has been made by Inco, the Canadian nickel producer. Three weeks ago, Ocean Management, a consortium of which Inco is part, retrieved "several hundred tons of nickel and copper-containing nodules from three miles deep in the ocean". But because of poor demand for nickel and its low price, Inco does not expect that the development will be followed up immediately. Inco earnings in the first quarter of this year fell from \$41m to \$34.9m.

stair shares harden though outcome below hopes

did well enough in the year to January 31 for the share price to rise 1p to 110p. The Dennis Ducart, SOS cement, bakery and farm plant conglomerate raised by 6.7 per cent to £57.1m. Profits by 6.1 per cent to £4.2m.

Market originally hoped for a rise similar to the 10.15p of G. International in the week.

Report on Curry's results for the year to January 25 on a profit before a £571,000 as properties should have reported as £9.75m which fell to £9.62m after de-

ducting a £208,000 property sale surplus the previous year. Profit included interest received of £529,000 against £1.13m.

HOLYROOD RUBBER
Two companies in the Harris & Crosfield empire report for 1977. Holyrood Rubber: pre-tax profit, £28,000 (£101,000). Total gross dividend, 50p (36.9p). Holyrood (Singapore) Rubber: pre-tax profit, £114,000 (£54,000). Total gross dividend, 11p (6.9p).

P. J. PARMITER & SONS
Wolsley-Hughes has bought P. J. Parmiter & Sons for £1.8m cash. Parmiter is the largest UK manufacturer of disc harrows.

WHEATLEY WATSON HOLDINGS
Wheatley Watson is to buy goodwill and some assets of Lovridge for £110,000 in shares. Cardiff-based Lovridge makes lifting equipment.

LEADENHALL STERLING
Turnover for 1977, £6.56m (£5.22m). Pre-tax profit, £544,000 (£511,000). Total gross dividend, 6.15p (5.62p).

YORKSHIRE & LANCAS INV
Hamillborne has increased stake in trust to 29.67 per cent following purchase of 25.5 per cent from Barrow Hepburn last week. At same time Barrow sold near 26 per cent holding in Weston-Evans to Mr G. Ferguson Lacey and Mr R.

Briefly

C. McBride, whose company, Ferguson Securities now controls Hamillborne.

ROLLS-ROYCE MOTORS
In first quarter of 1978 turnover and profits both ahead of same period. If manufacturing momentum not disturbed by industrial problems this performance should be reflected in results for year.

SUITS-LONRHO
Three directors who make up majority of independent members of board of Scottish & Universal Investments have told shareholders that they regard Lonrho offer as "inadequate and unacceptable".

ROSKINS & HORTON
Turnover for 1977 reached £7.99m (£7.55m), but pre-tax profits fell to £507,000 (£790,000). Total gross dividend, 7.83p (7.12p). But 1978 should show an improvement. Artoc Bank & Trust holds 29.2 per cent of ordinary.

STEETLEY CO
Steetley's chairman told the annual meeting that the current year has started more or less as

expected and the company is encouraged to see some continuing signs of improving performance from the Canadian offshoots.

BRADWELL (F.M.S.)
Turnover £1.33m (£1.18m) for year to December 31. Pre-tax profit, £284,000 (£461,000). Dividend 2.57p gross (1.89p).

LADBROKE BUYS HOTEL
Ladbroke Group is to buy Beehive Hotel for £1.4m cash. This will bring the total number of hotels and motor inns owned to 17.

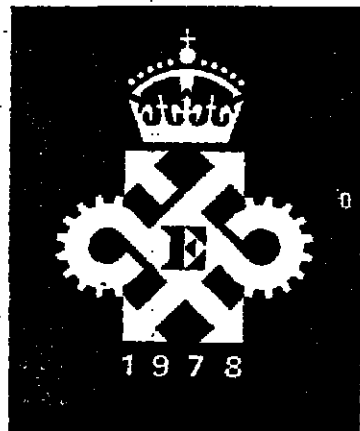
SCOTTISH MORTGAGE
Pre-tax revenue for year to March 31, £4.31m (£4.35m). Total gross payment, 5p (4.56p).

POWELL DUFFRYN
Agreement reached for sale to George Wimpey of Beatrice and Industrial Services divisions. Net book value of the assets concerned is about £4.75m.

PROCOR (UK)
Sales and rental income for 1977, £3.76m (£3.61m). Net profit, £209,000 (£25,000). No dividend (same).

TAY & LYLE
Controlling interest of 50 per cent to be bought in Realty Furniture, of Cheshire. Hukla-Werke GmbH, Germany, will also acquire an interest in Realty.

The Queen's Awards 1978



Nothing succeeds like success.

For Minet, one success leads to another.

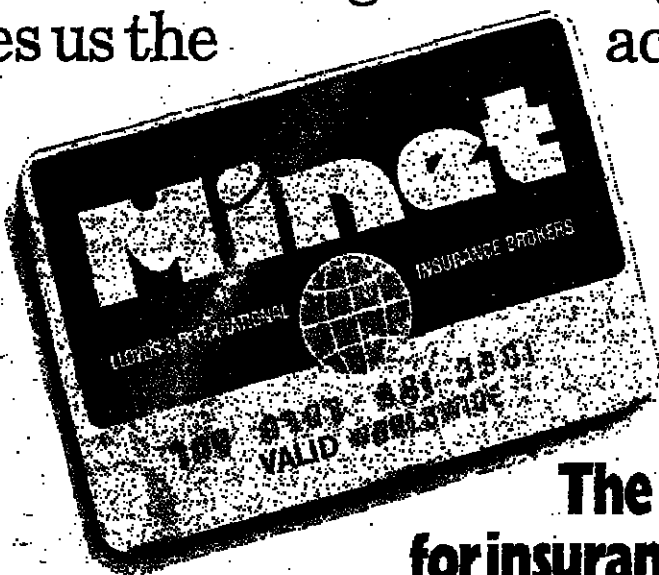
In 1973, we won The Queen's Award, the first Award ever to be made in the field of insurance broking.

This year, we've done it again. Which makes us the first insurance

brokers to receive this coveted Award twice.

Doubling our overseas earnings in the last three years alone is significant in itself.

Being honoured in such a tangible way makes a notable achievement that much more special.



The name that's recognised for insurance around the world

Minet Holdings Limited, Minet House, 66 Prescott Street, London E1 8BU.

إلى الله المرجع

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]

General Vacancies

Publishing
Export Sales

A major UK book company is seeking an executive to assume responsibility for the sale and marketing of a range of mass market paperback books to selected export markets.

The company is already trading in many markets and is now looking for a senior executive to initiate and develop new business.

The ideal candidate will have a proven record in export selling and will have a numerate and creative approach to book marketing. Previous book trade experience is desirable but not essential.

The salary will exceed £6,000 per annum. A company car will be provided together with the fringe benefits associated with a major company.

Michael Kaye
Sharps Recruitment Services
12 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7DZ
Telephone: 01-235 1272

SAFETY ENGINEER
required by leading Italian firm for the design and construction of safety systems for industrial plants. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and construction of safety systems for industrial plants. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and construction of safety systems for industrial plants.

ANTIQUE ARMS
Wanted for Antiques Shop in London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and construction of safety systems for industrial plants. The successful candidate will be responsible for the design and construction of safety systems for industrial plants.

Commonwealth of Australia
Australian Institute of
Marine Science

DIRECTOR

The Australian Institute of Marine Science invites applications from senior marine scientists for the position of Director which will become vacant on 1 June 1978 upon the resignation of the present Director who has accepted an invitation to a senior post in the United States.

The Institute is a statutory research authority established under the Australian Institute of Marine Science Act 1972 and is funded by the Commonwealth Government. Research is conducted in and around the Institute's headquarters at Cape Ferguson 50 km east of Townsville, North Queensland, in July 1977. Its facilities there also include a harbour and associated marine services in addition to several smaller vessels, the Institute will take delivery of a 34.4 m research vessel in mid 1978.

The Director is the chief executive officer of the Institute and subject to the general directions of the Council, is responsible for the direction of the research programme and the management of the affairs of the Institute. The Director may be appointed for an initial period not exceeding seven years, but is eligible for reappointment. Salary and other conditions of the statutory appointment are determined by the Commonwealth Parliament.

Further information on the Institute, its staffing, facilities and the current research programme, and on the position of Director may be obtained from the undersigned. Applications, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be received by the CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE, PMB 3, TOWNSVILLE ASSO, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA 4810, NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE 1978.

FINANCIAL
CONTROLLER

LOCATED IN EIRE c. £10,000

This is a new post serving a group of Irish Private Companies with substantial interests in the Republic, including an Historic House open to the public, Farms, Bloodstock and an Hotel, as well as properties in Wales.

The Financial Controller will be responsible for the accounting organisation and the introduction of the necessary accounting and control procedures. He/she will advise and guide the Directors on the financial implications of broad policy and specific feasibility and will be responsible for overall financial planning. He/she will also co-ordinate the administrative organisation of the Group and be closely involved in day-to-day management.

Applicants must be Chartered Accountants, preferably with a Law Degree and in their late 30's, with senior management experience in industry/Commerce. They must have a reasonable general knowledge of taxation and an interest in tax planning.

Terms negotiable. Accommodation available.

Applications in writing, with full curriculum vitae, addressed to:

The Chairman,
c/o Turville Wood House,
Turville, Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire, RG9 6QU.

LEADING FIRM OF
LLOYDS BROKERS

is planning to set up a substantial mid western surplus line agency for which it wishes to employ a Lloyds broker between the age of 35 and 45 with considerable North American Production and Broking experience. The position requires a minimum of three years residence in the United States.

Terms of employment to be negotiated.

Please reply to Box 1115 K, The Times.

Papua New Guinea
Department of FinanceSenior Post
Financial Planning and
Economic Development

Applications are invited from graduates for the post of Assistant Secretary - Financial Planning and Economic Development in the Department of Finance. Candidates should have extensive financial planning and economics experience and a developed capacity and orientation to Policy work. Post graduate studies in Financial and Development Planning would be an advantage.

In addition to the control, direction and evaluation of the General Economic Policy Branch, the appointee will be principally required to:-
a. Develop and continually review from a financial viewpoint the Government's Investment guidelines and, in particular, sectors requiring economic development and assistance and negotiate with responsible authorities for improvements.

b. Review, research and formulate financial policy to meet Government requirements for public revenue raising measures and report on the effect of such measures on economic and investment activity and revenue implications.

Pay-per-annum

Expressed in Kina. Current rate of exchange K1.38 = £1.00.

Salary

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Annual bonus

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Bonus is payable on satisfactory completion of Period of Engagement - two years (renewable in most instances). General entitlements are very attractive and include an education allowance for dependent children attending secondary school overseas, return air passages with personal effects and baggage allowance, low cost married and single accommodation and generous leave conditions.

Please write or telephone for an application form to: The Recruitment Officer, Papua New Guinea High Commission, 14 Waterloo Place, London SW1R 4AR. Tel: 01-930 0606/0607.

Papua New Guinea

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Interviews will be held in London during the first week of May. Reply in the first instance with c.v. to:

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Tel: 03 29 282061

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Malawi -
Chancellor College

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER IN ENGLISH

Applicants must have a good first degree and postgraduate research experience. The successful candidate will be required to teach English in the Department of English and to supervise the postgraduate research of students in the Department.

Further information on the Department and its facilities may be obtained from the undersigned. Applications, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be received by the CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI, Zomba, Malawi, NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE 1978.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Rhodesia

Applications are invited for the post of

SENIOR LECTURESHIP/
LECTURESHIP

in the Department of English. The successful candidate will be required to teach English in the Department and to supervise the postgraduate research of students in the Department.

Further information on the Department and its facilities may be obtained from the undersigned. Applications, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be received by the CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF RHODESIA, Salisbury, Rhodesia, NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE 1978.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Dar es Salaam -
Tanzania

Applications are invited for the post of

SENIOR LECTURER/
LECTURER

in the Department of English. The successful candidate will be required to teach English in the Department and to supervise the postgraduate research of students in the Department.

Further information on the Department and its facilities may be obtained from the undersigned. Applications, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be received by the CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, NOT LATER THAN 30 JUNE 1978.

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Tanzania

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SENIOR LECTURER/
LECTURER

in the Department of English. The successful candidate will be required to teach English in the Department and to supervise the postgraduate research of students in the Department.

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require

Professor
of Business Economics

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Tel. Lincs. 50191 extn. 2301. Closing date 14.6.78.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Dar es Salaam -
Tanzania

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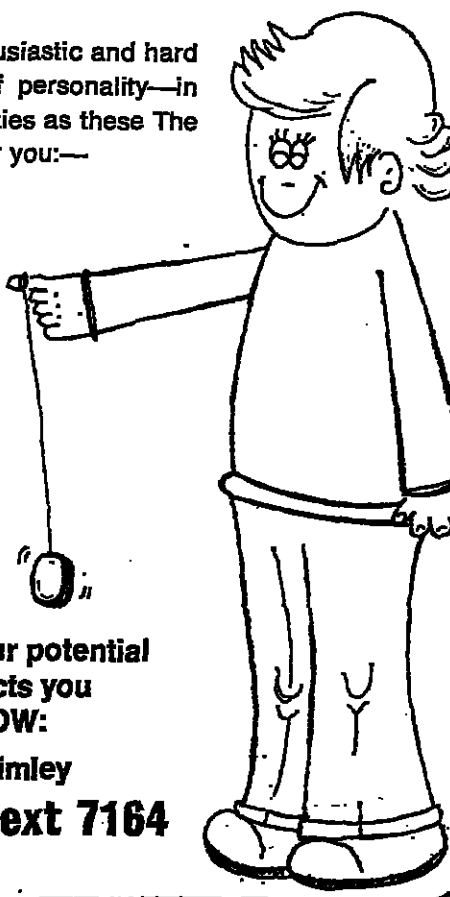
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